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ADELPHI (Strand).—"The Boy," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2645.
AMBASSADORS (West-street). — "The Little Brother," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 2890.
APOLLO (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Inside the Lines," 2.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 8.15. Gerr. 3243.
BORO' (Stratford, E.).—"The Glad Eye." 7.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. East 897.
COMEDY (Panton-street). — "Bubbly," 8.15. Mon., Fri., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3724.
CRITERION (Piccadilly-circus). — "A Little Bit of Fluff." 8.30. Mon., Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 3365 and Gerr. 3844.
DALY'S (Leicester-square).—"The Maid of the Mountains," 2. Gerr. 202.
DRURY LANE (Covent Garden).—Beecham Opera Co. Mon., 8.15; Tues., 8; Wed., 2.15, 8; Thurs., 8; Fri., 8. Gerr. 4085.
DUKE OF YORK'S (St. Martin's-lane).—"The Thirteenth Chair," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 514.
GAIETY (Strand).—"The Beauty Spot," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 2780.
GARRICK (Charing Cross-road). — "Carminetta," 8.15. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 9513.
GLOBE (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Love in a Cottage," 8. Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 8722.
HAYMARKET (Haymarket).—"General Post." Thurs., 2.30; Sat., 8.30. Reg. 6039.
HIS MAJESTY'S (Haymarket).—"Chu Chin Chow," 2.15 and 8. Gerr. 1777.
KENNINGTON (Kennington-rd., S.E.). —"Thirteenth Chair," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Hop. 1004.
KING'S (Hammersmith). — "Damaged Goods," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Hamm. 119.
KINGSWAY (Gt. Queen-street).—"When Knights Were Bold," 7. Mon., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 4032.
LYCEUM (Wellington-street).—"Seven Days' Leave," 2.30 and 7.45. Gerr. 7617-8.
LYRIC (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Romance," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3687.
NEW (St. Martin's-lane). — "The Freaks," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 4466.
OXFORD (Oxford-street).—"The Better 'Ole," 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 3934.
PALACE (Shaftesbury-avenue). — "Pamela," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 6384.
PLAYHOUSE (Charing Cross).—"The Yellow Ticket," 2.30. Thurs., Sat., 8.30. Gerr. 3970.
PRINCE OF WALES' (Piccadilly Circus).—"Flora," 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2. Gerr. 7482.
PRINCES (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Yes, Uncle!" 8. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2. Gerr. 7666.
QUEEN'S (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Brewster's Millions," 2.30. Thurs., Sat., 8.30. Gerr. 9477.
ROYALTY (Dean-street). — "Billeted," 2.30. Gerr. 3855.
ST. JAMES'S (King-street). — "Valentine," 2.30. Thurs., Sat., 8. Gerr. 3903.
ST. MARTIN'S (West-st., Shaftesbury-av.).—"Sleeping Partners," 8.30. Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 1243.
SAVOY (Savoy-court, W.C.).—"Nothing but the Truth," 8.30. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3366.
SHAFTESBURY (Shaftesbury-avenue).—"Arlette," 8. Wed., Sat., 2. Gerr. 6666.
STRAND (Strand).—"Cheating Cheaters," 8.15. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Gerr. 3830.
VAUDEVILLE (Strand). — "Cheep," 8.15. Tues., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3815.
WYNDHAM'S (Charing Cross-road).—"Dear Brutus," 8.30. Wed., Sat., 2.30. Reg. 3028.

VARIETY THEATRES.

ALHAMBRA (Leicester-square).—"The Bing Boys on Broadway," 8.15. Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 5064.
COLISEUM (Charing Cross).—Clarice Mayne, Will Evans, Florence Smithson, Alfred Sutro's play "The Trap," Alice O'Brien, Elliott Savonas, 2.30 and 8. Gerr. 7541.
EMPIRE (Leicester-sq.).—"The Lilac Domino," 8.15. Tues., Wed., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3527.
HIPPODROME (Leicester-square). — "Box o' Tricks," 2.30 and 8.30. Gerr. 650.
LONDON PAVILION (Piccadilly-circus). —"Any Old Thing," 8.15. Tues., Wed., Thurs., Sat., 2.15. Gerr. 3886.
PALLADIUM (Argyll-street, W.).—Little Tich, Beatie and Babs, Max Darewski, Amy Evans, Jay Laurier, Malcolm Scott, Marie Dainton, Fulgora, Bart's Trio, Swanstone and Hammond, 2.30, 6.10, and 9. Gerr. 1004.
VICTORIA PALACE (Victoria Station, S.W.).—Miss Madge Titheradge, Miss Ella Shields, Phil Ray, De Marest, 6.20 and 9. Vic. 5282.

FIRST NIGHTS OF THE WEEK.

BEECHAM OPERA SEASON.

"BORIS GODOUNOV."

The Drury Lane performance of Moussorgsky's "Boris Godounov" on the 12th inst. was about the best yet given by the Beecham Company. Mr. Robert Radford has now taken the measure of the tremendous rôle of Boris. Familiarity with the music—which he sings magnificently—enables him to bring out the traits of the reformer Czar's character in full emotional contrast. He makes plain the nobility of the man, and the inherent softness of disposition that, breeding remorse for the crime that gave him the crown and fear of retribution, results in madness and death. For the first time the love scene—that has always seemed superfluous to the drama's development—made its just effect. This was due to Miss Edna Thornton's Lady Macbeth-like Marina, hard, ambitious, unscrupulous — just the sort of woman to goad a low-born pretender like Grigori to dare everything to gain a throne. Both she and Mr. Walter Hyde were in fine voice, and their every word was clear. Mr. Maurice D'Oisly continues to improve on his impersonation of the crafty Chiusky and his pathetic sketch of the Idiot. These are among his best rôles. Miss Edith Clegg's Hostess and Nurse, Miss Ethel Toms' Feodor, Mr. Foster Richardson's Pimène, Miss Doris Lemon's Xenia, Mr. Frederick Ranalow's Varlaam, and Mr. Alfred Heather's Missail were all excellent. And the chorus in the revolution scene seemed better than ever. Mr. Eugene Goossens, junr., conducted.

"LOUISE."

Wednesday evening brought revolution in another setting and of another sort in Charpentier's drama of the revolting daughter, "Louise." Except that Mr. Robert Parker appeared in Mr. Robert Radford's part of the Father, and Mr. Webster Millar as Julien in place of Mr. Maurice D'Oisly, the long cast was practically the same as in previous revivals. At the moment Mr. Millar seems hardly in his best form. He sounds tired, and his voice is not as free as it was. But he sang with as much art as usual. Mr. Parker's Father was, perhaps, not quite as satisfactory as most of his impersonations. His voice lacks the sympathetic mellowness associated—even from Covent Garden days—with the part. On the other hand, the grim harshness of character, reflected from the vocal timbre, made it possible to bestow more sympathy on Louise. Miss Miriam Licette's work in the same part, both as singer and actress, has been often, and deservedly, praised. So, too, have Miss Edith Clegg's Mother, Mr. Norman Allin's Ragman, Mr. Alfred Heather's Noctambulist and King of Fools, Miss Gertrude Ketchell's irrepressible Errant Girl, and the Irma, Camillie, and Gertrude of Miss Eda Bennie, Miss Clytie Hyne, and Miss Juliette Autran. The conductor was Mr. Percy Pitt.

"TRISTAN AND ISOLDE."

Wonderfully fine playing by the orchestra under Mr. Julius Harrison, beautiful singing—especially in the love duet in the second act—from Miss Rosina Buckman as Isolde and Mr. Frank Mullings as Tristan, and from Mr. Norman Allin as King Mark, and the powerful drawing of faithful Kurwenal by Mr. Robert Parker were the outstanding features of Thursday's performance. Miss Juliette Antran made a handsome Brangäne, but her voice is too slight and youthful in texture both for the music she has to sing and to stand in comparison with the powerful voices of the other principals. Mr. Albert Chapman's effective Melot, Mr. Kenneth Sterne's Sailor, Mr. Sydney Russell's Shepherd, and Mr. L. J. Russell's Steersman were all good.

"IL SERAGLIO."

To go straight from Wagner's passion-laden drama to Mozart's light-hearted harem opera—staged on Friday—seemed like stepping out of a hot-house into the spring sunshine. The breathing was freer. One's sympathies with the artless lovers' difficulties were not entangled to any painful extent; one could laugh—gently—at the "humours" of the book; and the glorious music, compact of sweetness and light, irradiated the whole landscape. Sir Thomas Beecham, in his element with Mozart's score, directed, and the excellent cast was unchanged from the autumn performances. Miss Licette was the Constanza, Mr. D'Oisly, who asked indulgence on the score of a cold, but who, as a matter of fact, sounded in more brilliant voice than usual, was the Belmonte, Miss Olive Townend the engaging Blonde, while Messrs. Robert Radford and Alfred Heather were responsible for the drolleries of Osmin and Pedrillo, and Mr. Frederic Austin was the melancholy and magnanimous Pasha. The members of the ballet, headed by Miles. Louise Maisie and Bily Gerald, scored a triumph with their dances, and had to repeat them.

"LA TOSCA."

The Beecham Company's revival of Puccini's melo-music-drama have given us several representatives of Tosca's hapless lover, the painter, Cavaradossi—some of whom are now playing parts in even more stirring scenes—but only one Tosca. This one, of course, is Mme. Jeanne Brola, and, to judge by the warmth of the reception accorded her by a crowded house on Monday night, there seems every good reason why she should continue to delight opera-goers with her beautiful singing and to harrow them with her poignant acting in the tragic closing scenes of the unfortunate Tosca's life for an indefinite period. She had splendid support both from Mr. Frederic Austin, who, in his third year as the villainous Scarpia, has also grown into the part, and plays it with uncommon power and finish, and from Mr. Maurice D'Oisly, whose Cavaradossi was in every way most effective. Mr. Foster Richardson as the Sacristan, Mr. Sydney Russell as Spoletta, and Mr. Albert Chapman as Angelotti, with Miss Amy Siessons, to sing the shepherd's song, completed a strong cast. Mr. Julius Harrison, the conductor, seemed unfortunately determined to overwhelm the singers. The playing of the orchestra throughout the first act was so loud as completely to drown the words, and thus to obscure the details, of the plot.

KATE SEARLE.

[*Photo Malcolm Arbuthnot.*

MISS GERTIE MILLAR.

THE COLISEUM.

In wishing Mr. Will Evans every success with the new sketch, entitled "Queues," which he launched at the Coliseum on Monday afternoon, we find ourselves confronted with what Desdemona termed "a divided duty." On the one hand, Mr. Will Evans is such a well-tried comedian, and his sketch contains such excellent possibilities, that the longer the one is associated with the other, the louder will wax the laughter of the music hall public. On the other hand, the subject is so "vital" (to employ an adjective which is working overtime these days), that the sooner it becomes old-fashioned and out-of-date the better Mr. Evans and all of us will be pleased. But whether the life of "Queues" be short or not, it is certain to be a gay one. Attired as one of those dilapidated dames so dearly beloved of our comedians, Mr. Evans leads off with a song in which he announces he can't hold his head up, he's just about fed up, with standing around in a queue, and which culminates in a wild refrain of "Hitchy-queue." There follows some laughable business with certain typical queueists, who line up outside a provision shop which ultimately turns out to be "to let," and in whose ranks Mr. Evans endeavours to secure a more advantageous position than he is justly entitled to. The pronunciation of "queue" as "kwee-wee," and the string of malapropisms (including a son who had joined the "nasal preserves"), kept the house well amused; while Mr. Evans's second item, "Laying a Carpet," one of his hilarious little essays in incompetence, kept the audience in a continuous chuckle.

Apart from "Queues," there is no great novelty at the Coliseum this week, although there are several great old favourites. Miss Clarice Mayne, that dainty rogue in porcelaine, assisted by "That" (more that-ish than ever), sang "It was on Monday Night I Met Him," "It's Got to be Done," and "Where the Black-eyed Susans" (with piccaninnies obligato), while for her encore she gave "Boots and Shoes," a clever and quite out-of-the-way recitation to music, in which she exhibits and descants upon the boots of a self-made man, of a flapper, of an out-of-work, of a baby, and of a soldier. She made a big hit. So did Miss Florence Smithson, whose top notes are one of the nine wonders of the modern world, and sounded as crystal-clear as ever in "Roses in Picardy" and "Cupid is the Fairy King." Another charming soprano is Miss Alice O'Brien, who is equally at home in French, English, or Irish songs. For the rest, Bonaudo, the knockabout acrobat; the Flying Banyards, comedy gymnasts; the Elliott-Savonas, ever popular in their unique eighteenth-century bell-ringing act; and Mr. Bromley Carter, character impersonator, all help to make up an admirable bill; while Mr. Sutro's new sketch, "The Trap," remains over from last week. The first half of this playlet is admirable in its Grand-Guignolesque atmosphere, but unhappily the dénouement is a little tame. This in spite of the clever miming of Miss Miriam Lawes, one of our really intelligent actresses, and of Mr. Herbert Waring, who has been seen only too rarely in the West End of late.

In the latest list of appointments to the Order of the British Empire the name of Madame Melba appears as a Dame Commander. This honour has been bestowed on the famous Australian in recognition of her "services in organising patriotic work." She will in future be known as Dame Nellie Melba.

"FLORA."

A Comedy with Music, in Three Acts, by Harry Grattan, Music by Herman Darewski and Melville Gideon, Lyrics by Davy Burnaby and Jas. Heard. Produced at the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Tuesday Afternoon, March 12.

The Marquis of Isos ..George Grundy
The Earl of Knowse .....Ralph Lynn
The Hon. Charles Dudley
Arthur Wellesley
Hamilton P. Brapwick ..Lennox Pawle
Jack Lorimer ..... Walter Williams
The Vicar .....Wyndham Guise
Mr. Griffen .....Murri Moncrieff
Cokeby ..... Alfred Phillips
Lucas Whittle ..... Jo Nightingale
Horace Lobley ..... Willie Hartill
Mrs. Brapwick .....Veronica Brady
Flora Brapwick ..... Gertie Millar
Gwendoline Brapwick..Blanche Tomlin
Philomina Brapwick..Florence Bayfield
Mrs. Merwyn .....Holford Beringer
Miss Maple ..... Cecily Guiver
Daphne Dalrymple ....Elsie Gregory
Nissie Noggie .....Helen Beltramo
Nadjy Binks .....Kathleen Vincent
Cooie Keigh ..... Cooie Emney
Trixie Tripp .....Flora Le Breton

There was a welcome of the heartiest for Mr. Harry Grattan's latest olive branch, "Flora," at the Prince of Wales's Theatre last Tuesday, for she is gay and pretty and witty and musical and charmingly attired. Also her other name is Gertie Millar, and she brings with her a host of clever and delightful companions, in whose merry company a very pleasant afternoon or evening can be spent. Flora is a sort of Cinderella minus the unkind parents and the ugly sisters; in fact, one of the sisters is a beauty, for she is Miss Blanche Tomlin, whose baby prettiness and caressing little ways serve as an admirable foil to Miss Millar's quiet, self-possessed, dainty appearance and methods. Gwendoline (Miss Tomlin) is the darling of her illiterate, common, and enormously rich parents, and to their openly displayed satisfaction has managed by joining the beauty chorus of a revue to hook an amiable Earl with a pedigree that is better than his manners. Flora is the good angel of the family, manages the house for vulgar, cheery mamma, looks after the flower show and other little things for fat and not too grateful papa, smoothes out love affairs for pretty Gwennie, and chooses frocks and frills for small sister Philomina (attractively played by little Miss Florence Bayfield). Flora is adored by all, especially by a gentleman farmer (the definition—the farmers think he's a gentleman and the gentlemen think he's a farmer—is a fair specimen of the neatness of the Grattan wit), Jack Lorimer (Mr. Walter Williams), and by a humble, golden-hearted, and very Lancashire gardener, Lucas Whittle (Mr. Jo Nightingale). To save the family from ruin, Flora breaks off her engagement to Lorimer, after some charming love scenes, delightfully played, and boasting a refreshing touch of originality, and agrees to marry Whittle and the fortune he has unexpectedly inherited. This gives Miss Millar an opportunity to show her powers as an actress, and admirably does she rise to the occasion. The pathos, tenderness, assumed gaiety, and suggestions of suffering that she gets into the part are admirably done. Needless to say, everything comes right in the last act, where Miss Millar gets a song, "You're the Boy," that brings down the house. There is a fetching if reminiscent duet in the first act for Miss Millar and Mr. Walter Williams, entitled "I Like Your Wonderful Eyes," that goes well; and a song, "Pastel Blue," for Miss Millar that has pretty music, and is sung with excellent point, though the words might be better. Of Miss Millar's delightful dancing we get far too little, but "what is there, is good." Miss Blanche Tomlin is well served with two attractive sentimental ballads, "One and Twenty" and "Hurry Along, Dear Boy," and sings both most sweetly. She also takes part in a capital octette in the second act that wins loud applause. Mr. Jo Nightingale has a part that suits him down to the ground. Who can combine shrewdness and sentimentality, simplicity, and common-sense better than Mr. Nightingale? He is as great a success as the gardener in "Flora" as he was as the shoemaker in "Hobson's Choice." Can praise be higher? As the unprincipled millionaire, the "self-made man," all aspirations and no aspirates, Mr. Lennox Pawle puts in some first-rate farcical acting; and Miss Veronica Brady is equally good as his wife, and delivers her malapropisms (most of which are richly humorous) with fine zest. Mr. Walter Williams has modified his exuberant style to great advantage, and makes a manly and sympathetic lover. His song, "I'm So Unfortunate," is one of the hits of the piece. As an Earl of the foolish but good-humoured type, Mr. Ralph Lynn contributes some capital work. Praise is also due to the pretty, lively chorus and the scenery—flowers and sunny spaces and a dear old English interior—of Messrs. Marc Henri and Laverdet.

The French Players will present, at the Queen's Theatre, on Sunday afternoon next, Molière's "L'Amour Médecin" and Alfred de Musset's "Le Chandelier." The cast will include Yvonne Arnauld, Gaston de Pamel, Arthur Fayne, Jean Maréchal, Yvan Servais, Julie Delacre, Edmée Dormeuil, Fernand Léane, André Randall, Gladys Spencer, and Arthur Viroux. The secretary of the French Players is Miss Valetta, 9, Duke-street, Adelphi, W.C. 2.

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ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER.
Aug. 19 (3 nights), Sept. 16, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, on.
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April 29, May 6, 13, Aug. 26, Sept. 2, 9, 30, Oct. 21, Nov. 4, 18, on.
Good Revues, Twice Nightly.

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The Opera House is the only building in Northampton holding a Dramatic Licence. (Big attraction required for Christmas, 9 nights).

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May 20, July 1, 8, 29, Aug. 19, 26, Nov. 4, 11, 18, Dec. 2, on.
Grand Theatre, Luton.
July 22, Aug. 5, 12, Oct. 21, on.
Theatre Royal, Canterbury.
Wire for April 1 through obliging. April 29 on. No Dramas or business through agents. E. G. FALCON, Hotel, Greenmoriston, N.B.

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Lessee and Manager, F. R. Littler.
WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
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April 8, May 13, 20, 27, and Autumn.
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WANTED, big Attraction, Whit Week, also May 6, 13, and onwards.
Also big attraction only for Autumn.
Theatre Royal, Glossop.
WANTED, Strong Attractions, April 22, May 6, 20, 27, onwards. SINCLAIR NEILL.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, Companies,
March 25
(5 nights and 2 matinées)
or
March 29.
Share or certainty.
(2 nights, 1 matinée).
Wire, HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

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"One of the most delightful and cosy theatres in the country."—Referee.

WANTED, First-class West-End Attractions for April 29 (?). Sept. 23. Oct. 7, 21, 28, Nov.

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Revues playing twice nightly.
The entire performance will be entertained.
They must be big productions.
Address, E. DOTTRIDGE.

GRAND THEATRE, LLANDUDNO.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attraction, August 15.
Other dates (Comedies, &c.), July 15, Sept. 16.
Apply, MANAGER.

WANTED, Good Companies, once nightly, for the Theatre Royal, Bolton, April 22, May 20.
Apply, J. F. ELLISTON, Theatre Royal, Bolton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.
WANTED, First-class Musical Attractions, Once or Twice Nightly, Aug. 5 (?), 12 (?), Sept. 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, Nov. 4, 18 (?), 25, Dec. 2, 9, 15, 30, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, on, with exceptions. ALFRED MANNERS as above.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BARNSLEY.
THEATRE ROYAL, MERTHYR.
WANTED, First-class Musical Comedies, Revues, Combinations, &c. Barnsley: Vacant, April 29, May 6, 13, June 3, 10, onwards. Merthyr: Vacant, June 10, 17, July 1, 8, 15, and later. Bookings include "Maid of Mountains," "Betty," "The Boy," Carl Rosa Company, "Royal Divorce," "Peg o' My Heart," "Belle of New York," "Tina," "Seven Days' Leave," "Inside the Lines." All communications, WILL SMITHSON, Barnsley

Theatre Royal, Stockport.
Theatre Royal, Ashton-under-Lyne.
WANTED, First-class Musical or Dramatic Attractions. Stockport, April 22, 29, May 6, onwards, with exceptions. Ashton, April 22, 29, May 13, onwards, with exceptions. Address, CHARLES REVILL, T.R., Stockport.

THEATRE ROYAL, HANLEY.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, twice nightly, April 22, onwards, with few exceptions; also once nightly, autumn dates. C. G. ELPHINSTONE.

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WANTED, High-class Attractions, DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.
April 18 (3), 29 (2), June 3, 13 (3), 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
April 15 (3), May 1 (4), May 20, June 10 (3), 17, July 8, 15, 22.
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THEATRE ROYAL, BATH.
Vacant May 6, 20, Aug. 5, 12, Sept. 9, 16, 30, Nov. 4, 18, 25, Dec. 2, 9, 16.
KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant first 3 nights of each week.
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T.R., Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only,
T.R., DUBLIN.
G.T., DUBLIN, July 29 (?).
O.H., BELFAST, April 29, May 20, July 22 (?).
O.H., CORK, April 8, May 6, 13, Aug. 5 (?).
G.T., SWANSEA.
L.T., NEWPORT.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON.
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WANTED, First-class Company, with successful West-End Comedy, Whit Monday and two following nights, May 20, 21, 22. W. PAYNE. Silence a polite negative.

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SAMUEL THORNLEY, Manager.

WANTED, for THE PLAYHOUSE, FAVERSHAM. Strong Attractions, March 25, April 15 and 22, May 6, and onward. Good Revue, Musical Comedy, or Operatic Company wire for March 25, to follow "You'd Laugh If You Knew."
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POWELL,
Queen's Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

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Messrs. Stafford and Woodward beg to announce that they have leased the above theatre for the forthcoming season, and will run it under their personal management on first-class lines.
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Regent 5780.

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(5 nights and 2 matinées)
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March 29.
(2 nights, 1 matinée).
Share or certainty.
Wire, HAYES, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL, ALDERSHOT.
WANTED, First-class Attractions (Musical preferred), through transferring June 3 and 17.
C. SOUNES, Empire, Kingston.

NEW THEATRE, SALISBURY.
WANTED, No. 1 Attractions for the following vacancies, June 3, 10, Aug. 5, 26, Sept. 30, Oct. 14, and various.
1918 bookings include "The Better 'Ole," "Diplomacy," "The Balkan Princess," "The Double Event," "Broadway Jones," "The Marriage Market," "Three Weeks," "The Belle of New York," "Ye Gods," "Bella Donna," "Charley's Aunt," "Oh! I Say," "Maid of the Midnight Sun," "Monty's Flapper," &c.
All companies must play twice nightly on Saturday, it being impossible to get the crowds in one house.
State full particulars to
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Guildhall-chambers, Weymouth.

WANTED, First-class Attraction, April 8.
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For other Companies Wanted, see Displayed Wanted Section.

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MR. FREDERICK HARRISON'S HAYMARKET PRODUCTION.
"THE WIDOW'S MIGHT."
A BRILLIANT COMEDY.
SPLENDIDLY PLAYED.
SUMPTUOUSLY STAGED.
WANTED, Easter, April 1.
Through Transferring Bath.
Wire, EADE MONTEFIORE, Haymarket T.

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"Ann" (6th year) and "Beecham" (3rd year).
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4, Electric-mansions, Brixton, S.W.

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WANTED, Christmas week, for above. Played to record business last season at County Reading, re-booked for next Boxing week with fresh subject; 18th production with Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton.
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Entire Apollo Production.
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Refer Mark Lindon, Esq., T.R., Stanley; Hugh Robertson, Esq., T.R., Jarrow; Stanley Rogers, Esq., T.R., North Shields, and Grand T., West Hartlepool; or any management visited.
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"GARRICK." "EAST LYNNE."
"THE STEPMOTHER," &c.
Established Easter, 1904.

WANTED, April 15, 22, May 20 (North), and onwards.
Full pictorials for each play.
One or more per week.
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Next, Hipp., Wednesbury.

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CHARLES WINDERMERE
in
"THE MUDDLER."
Only vacant date till Oct. 7 (North).
This week, West Pier, Brighton.

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A BRILLIANT COMEDY.
SPLENDIDLY PLAYED.
SUMPTUOUSLY STAGED.
WANTED, Easter, April 1,
Through Transferring Bath.
Wire, EADE MONTEFIORE, Haymarket T.

"LA POUPEE."
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"LA POUPEE."
WANTED, April 8 and 22.
Address, MR. ROBERT ARTHUR, Eccentric Club, Ryder-st., St. James's.

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The Successful Musical Production from the St. Martin's Theatre.
By arrangement with Mr. C. B. Cochran.
Once or Twice Nightly.

WANTED, Monday next, March 25 (between Brighton and Eastbourne), April 15, and a few autumn dates only.

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Entire Garrick Theatre Production carried.
Wanted, April 15 (Midlands and North), May 27 (between Hull and Liverpool), June 17, on, with exceptions.
W. FOSTER HORSFIELD,
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'Phone, Regent 208.

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"THE COWARD WHO MADE GOOD."

"THE MORMON AND THE MAID."
"THE MORMON AND THE MAID."

"FOR HER BOY'S SAKE."
"FOR HER BOY'S SAKE."
By Royce Carleton.
Wire or write,
Globe Theatre, Consett, Durham.
Next, Grand Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED,
MARCH 25,
APRIL 1
(Midlands or South Wales),
BERT BRAMLEY'S
MUSICAL REVUE,
"TRIFLES."
Star Cast, Good Comedy, Singing, and Dresses.
Wire, BRAMLEY, 32, Thynne-st., West Bromwich.

WANTED, April 1, 8, on, for
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"COUSIN KATE." "THE MOLLUSC."
W. A. THOMPSON,
2, Barcombe-av., Streatham Hill, S.W. 2.

WANTED, "The Prince and the Beggar Maid," April 1, on, follow King's T., Wimbledon. WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C. 2.

MISS HENRIETTA SCHRIER
in
Repertory.
WANTED, April 15, to follow Stratford, precede Yarmouth.
Wire, LODGE PERCY,
County Hall, St. Albans.

THE NAVAL DRAMA OF TO-DAY,
"FOR SWEETHEARTS AND WIVES."
WANTED, April 29, to follow Opera House, Harrogate.
May 6 and 13, to precede Sheffield.
Full London Company. Entirely new production.
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"FLORADORA."
"FLORADORA."
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WANTED,
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Once Nightly,
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between
Dalston Theatre
and
Borough, Stratford.

Wire or 'Phone,
EGBERT'S AGENCY, LTD.,
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Piccadilly-mansions,
17, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W.

Telephone, 6519 Gerrard.

Telegrams, "Egbertency, London."

"FOR HIS LADY'S HONOUR."
Romantic Costume Drama, everything travelled.
WANTED, March 25.

Wire, LODGE PERCY,
County Hall, St. Albans.

"WILD HEATHER"
(by arrangement with Arthur Alchin).
WANTED, April 15, follow Penge, and a few other spring dates. Autumn vacancies, Aug. 12, 19, 26, Sept. 16, on, with exceptions.
Apply,
EUGENE C. STAFFORD,
102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.
Regent 5780.

THE BRANDON THOMAS COMPANY.
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Aug. 19 (North).

Sept. 2 and 9 (North).

Address, CECIL BARTH, 37, King-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C. 2.

WANTED, Theatres, "The Heart of a Thief," April 8; "A Love Marriage" and "A Pitman's Daughters," April 15, 22 (?), 29 (?), June 3. W. V. GARROD, 94, Kennington Park-road, London, S.E. 11.

WANTED, through misunderstanding,
April 1, April 1.
April 1, April 1.
April 1, April 1.
"BACK HOME IN TENNESSEE."
"BACK HOME IN TENNESSEE."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.
Wire for this splendid attraction.
Always a sure draw.
April 1, April 1.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
J. C. CARLYLE, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

"THE ROSARY."

MISS JESSIE MILLWARD'S CO.
WANTED,
Wanted,
April 1 (through transferring), between London and York.
Wire.
Wire.
J. H. DARNLEY, this, O.H., Torquay.
Next, Hippo., Golders Green.

MR. FRED OSMOND'S COMPANIES
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted,
April 1, Easter week, for
"HER FAVOURITE SON."
"HER FAVOURITE SON."
This drama played to £523 17s. 3d. last Easter week at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, without tax.
Wire for April 1.
This, T.R., West Bromwich.
Next, H.M.T., Walsall.

WANTED, May 27, on, with exceptions.
ANDIE CAINE'S
New Grand
MUSICAL FARCICAL COMEDY REVUE
(Never mind your)
"MOTHER LAD."
5 Scenes. (Eat your Orange.) 5 Scenes.
Cast includes
Mr. ANDIE CAINE.
All coms., Grand Theatre, Filey.

WANTED,
April 8, April 8.
The following company vacant for above date:—
"MISLEADING LADY" (South).
"WANTED, A HUSBAND" (Midlands).
"THREE MUSKETEERS" (North).
Apply,
EUGENE C. STAFFORD,
102, Charing Cross-road, W.C. 2.
'Phone: Regent 5780.

VIVIEN CARTER
presents
CARTER LIVESEY
in
"THE JOY GIRL."
"THE JOY GIRL."
An entirely New and Original Musical Fantasy.
Not a Revue!
"Including the famous Comedy Skit,
"THE WOULD-BE ACTORS."
As played at the Palace Theatre, W.
Full of Comedy, New Songs, and Speciality Dances.
Only a few immediate Dates Vacant at present for this Attraction owing to Mr. Livesey's Music Hall Engagements.
WANTED, April 15 and 29, onwards, with exceptions.
314, King-street, Hammersmith, W.

"PASSIN' OF THE THIRD FLOOR BACK."
Frank Fenton as the Passer By.
"His House in Order."
Frank Fenton as Hilary Jesson.
"Under Two Flags," "East Lynne."
WANTED, March 11, April 1, to follow Weymouth, on, Autumn, Aug. 19, 26, Sept. 2, 9 (3), to precede Buxton, Nov. 4, on. FRANK FENTON, Palace Pier, Brighton.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Theatres,

Monday, March 18 and 25.
Monday, March 18 and 25.
Monday, March 18 and 25.
Owing to transfer to oblige Manager.

The great Musical Comedy Revue,
"THE FLOWER OF JAPAN."
"THE FLOWER OF JAPAN."
"THE FLOWER OF JAPAN."
Full Company of Thirty Artistes travelled. All new scenery; 3 full sets and 2 front cloths. Acknowledged by Managers to be one of the best-dressed and put-on shows on tour. Large plant of Pictorial Printing. Also vacant, April 1 and 8.
Wire this week, ELDERTON, Opera House, Wakefield. Printing ready to despatch.

DR. WALFORD BODIE'S
ROYAL MAGNETS.

WANTED, Theatre, Hippodrome, or any Large Hall that will hold money for Dr. Walford Bodie's

ROYAL MAGNETS.

8 Big Star Turns. 8

Unexpectedly vacant through unforeseen circumstance.

MONDAY NEXT VACANT.
MONDAY NEXT VACANT.
MONDAY NEXT VACANT.
MONDAY NEXT VACANT.

MAR. 25. MAR. 25. MAR. 25.
MAR. 25. MAR. 25. MAR. 25.

Lancashire or Midlands.

Only other 3 dates vacant till Feb., 1919.

WIRE! WIRE! WIRE! WIRE!

Printing ready.

Wire,

DR. WALFORD BODIE,
Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancs.

MR. FREDERICK HARRISON'S HAYMARKET PRODUCTION.
"THE WIDOW'S MIGHT."
A BRILLIANT COMEDY,
SPLENDIDLY PLAYED,
SUMPTUOUSLY STAGED.
WANTED, Easter, April 1,
Through Transferring Bath.
Wire, EADE MONTEFIORE, Haymarket T.

"THE YOUNG MINISTER."
"THE YOUNG MINISTER."
"THE YOUNG MINISTER."
WANTED, Big Theatres.

April 22, May 13.
April 22, May 13.
April 22, May 13.
"WHEN OUR LADS COME MARCHING HOME."
"WHEN OUR LADS COME MARCHING HOME."
"WHEN OUR LADS COME MARCHING HOME."
May 6, Aug. 5.
May 6, Aug. 5.
May 6, Aug. 5.

Wire HARRY FOXWELL. Wire. Court Theatre, Warrington.

Stephen Crossley's Company.
WANTED, Monday next, March 25, for "A Daughter of Devon" or "The Sword of Justice"; one or both sure draws. Wire quick. CROSSLEY, Victoria T., Lyne, near Stourbridge.

"THE MISSING MAID."
Musical Comedy Revue.
WANTED, Large Theatre, April 1 and 8, for this beautiful reproduction of the Flower Girl as the missing maid; new and magnificent scenery, gorgeous gowns; beauty chorus and picked cast of artistes. A big show.
BARRETT, Royal Veteran Hotel, Irwell-street, Salford, Manchester.

WANTED, Easter, April 1, LENA STANTON'S Pantomime, "Mother Goose," the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London Success. Wanted Easter week, April 1. Only vacancy this year. All coms., HARRY JOSEPH, This, Grand T., Wellington, Salop. Next, Hippo., Wrexham, N. Wales.

"The Little Damozel."
WANTED, immediate and future dates. WEATHERSBY'S AGENCY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C. 2.

The Great Farce.
"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY."

WANTED, Monday next, Easter (?).

Wire, RUSSELL,
5, Garrick-street, W.C.

"BELLA DONNA."
"BELLA DONNA."
WANTED, for the above, Good Theatres,
April 1 (Easter);
also June 3, 10, and on.
Miss Georgina Wynter as Bella Donna.
Mr. Dudley Stuart as Isaacson.
Apply, ARTHUR GIBBONS,
Walter House, Strand.

WANTED, Week, April 8 (and after), to follow Bournemouth, for ALBERT CHEVALIER, in successful new play, "My Old Dutch."
Wire or write, CHAS. INGLE, this week, T.R., Bury; next, T.R., Bath.

Mr. Norman Partriege's Co.
Under the direction of Henry Kemble.
Second Tour of the proved success.

"CHARLIE ON THE SPREE."

Farcical Revuesical Absurdity. First-class London company. Full Beauty Chorus.
WANTED, April 22, 29, South. Managers wanting a Box Office Attraction wire or write,
HENRY KEMBLE,
150, Kennington Park-road, S.E.

"HIS GOOD ANGEL."
WANTED, April 1.
This week, Deal.
Next week, Dalston.
Wire, LODGE PERCY,
County Hall, St. Albans.

For other Theatres Wanted, see Displayed Wanted Section.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"THE END OF THE TRAIL."
WANTED, First-class Young Leading Lady, strong emotional actress, for part similar to "The Coastguard's Daughter."
Rehearse T.R., Leeds, Monday next.
Photos and full particulars,
WILTON REED,
Theatre Royal, Breck-road, Liverpool.

WANTED (London), Tall Young Lady, good-looking, fine full figure (not slim), smart, striking appearance. Replies ignored without age, salary, colouring, height, picture, pos. and addr. envelope. Box 1,080, "The Era."

WANTED, good sound Actor, to play Juv. and Lt. Comedy in Repertoire.
Rehearse March 25 at Huddersfield.

Open Easter at Empire, Garston.

Full particulars and terms,
J. LEICESTER JACKSON,
Grand, Halifax; next, Hip., Huddersfield.

ARTISTES WANTED.

THE PALACE, DERBY.
Thirteenth week of Repertoire Season.
WANTED, to open on Easter Monday, rehearse 26th. Good Experienced Leading Man, used to stock. Terms, references, and photo. to HAROLD L. HILLIARD, Palace, Derby.

WANTED, Char. and Light Com. Actors and Lady for Comedy. Call 11.30 to 2. DARE, Ben Greet Academy, 3, Bedford-street, Strand.

WANTED, for long tour, open immediately, rehearse London next week, Gentleman for Irish part (tall) and Gentleman for Straight Part. Write, stating age, height, references, and absolute lowest terms to GEORGE PICKETT, 228, Gloucester-terrace, W. 2.

WANTED, Chambermaid, Heavy & Char. Gents, Drama Tour, April 1. Pretty Ingenue, at once, rep. West-End plays. Call 12, Wed., WEATHERSBY, 3, Bedford-street, W.C. 2.

"THE ROTTERS."
WANTED, to rehearse next week, Actor, about 5 ft. 10 in., to play Charles, the Chauffeur, in "The Rotters"; also Artistes in various lines for other companies. Apply, ARTHUR GIBBONS, Walter House, Corner of Bedford-street, Strand, W.C.

WANTED, Heavy Man, Juvenile Man, Comedian; also good Carpenter write in. J. C. CARLYLE, Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.

PAISLEY AND PERTH REPERTORY COMPANY.
WANTED, Character Comedian, capable of Low and Light Comedy; open April 8; rehearse April 2; 12 weeks' engagement. Also Gentleman for Second Juveniles and Light Comedy, and good Responsible Man.
No vacancies for ladies. All ladies' positions filled.
Apply, J. H. SAVILE,
The Paisley Theatre.

MR. FRED OSMOND'S COMPANIES.
"HER FAVOURITE SON."
WANTED, for the above, Smart Comedian. Send terms, references, &c., to FRED OSMOND, T.R., West Bromwich. Next, H.M. Theatre, Walsall.

WANTED, Artistes for Stock Season, First-class Leading Lady, Leading Gentleman, Comedian, &c.
POWELL,
Theatre, Farnworth, Bolton.

WANTED, Good Bass or Baritone Vocalist for Quartette.

Apply, stating compass, terms, age, &c., in first letter, to Box 1081, "The Era."

WANTED, All Parts, "Pearl Girl" (musical comedy). No. 1 Tour; also Dude, Old Actor, Chorus Ladies and Gentlemen. Write, SELBIT'S AGENCY, 102, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C. 2.

WANTED immediately for long tour of London success, First-class Artistes in all lines; good man for character parts and A.S.M.; Leading Gentleman; Lady for Juvs. or Chambermaid. Those who can speak a little French preferred. All must be experienced. Full parts., lowest terms, age and height, to Box 1,101, "The Era."

THE O'MARA OPERA CO., LTD.
WANTED Known, a few Vacancies for Male Choristers. Apply by letter to Norfolk House, Laurence Pountney Hill, Cannon-street, London, E.C. 4. Good terms to choristers with repertoire.

WANTED, young Lady as Artist's Model, London. Write, enclose photo. if possible. Box 1,088, "The Era."

"CHRISTENED AND VACCINATED."
WANTED Known, there will be a Special Matinée in aid of "The Wounded Soldiers' Social Entertainment Fund" of new play, "Christened and Vaccinated," at Wyndham's Theatre (kindly lent by Mr. Du Maurier). April 30. All male parts to be taken by men who have actually been in the firing line. Will men wishing to help apply to Mrs. STACK, 150, Sutherland-avenue, W. 9.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, engagement, lady, Sketch or Revue, Light Comedy, Chambermaids; thoroughly experienced. MARTIN, 35, Shakespeare-street, Nottingham.

WANTED, at liberty for Panto. or Revue, Knockabout Patter Comedian, with funny falls, plenty of original business; can rehearse immediately. RIBY, 35, Shakespeare-st., Nottingham.

WANTED, by Ballad Soprano, Hotel Engagement for Easter. MISS EMILINE, 41, Matheson-road, West Kensington, W. 14.

WANTED, Engagement, first-class Strong Bass; any business. B., 57, Great Cambridge-st., Hackney-rd., London.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS WANTED.

WANTED, Concert Party Artistes, for DAVID THOMSON'S CONCERT PARTY, Beach Pavilion, Aberdeen. Open May to October. Suitable artistes can have four to eight weeks. This is not an al-fresco show. No bottling. Artistes must be clever and refined. Evening dress. Artistes known to me with odd weeks please write. All particulars and where to be seen working, to DAVID THOMSON, 22, Stanley Street, Aberdeen.

WANTED, Double or Trio Ragtime Piano Singing and Dancing Act, good Vocalist, Real Comedian, Pianist, Entertainer, for Concert Party; absolute lowest and bookings first letter; open April 1. Wire or write, RAGLUS, 1, Bagby-place, Leeds. Amateurs save stamps.

WANTED, for C. P. (tour), Comedian-Producer, Pianist (with turn), and Artistes, all lines. ROY, 7, Burgess-rd., Sutton, Surrey.

CONCERT PARTIES AND ENTERTAINERS' WANTS.

WANTED Known, Soprano, open for Engagement with Concert Party or Trio; could also assist with accompanist. Full particulars to SOPRANO, 151, Ongar-road, Brentwood, Essex.

AMATEURS, PUPILS, ETC., WANTED.

Important to Beginners.
WANTED Known, during the past nine months the number of high-class engagements filled by my pupils have beaten all previous records. Beginners (experience unnecessary) are urgently required to train in spare time or by post for the Theatrical and Variety Professions. Good salaried engagements when proficient. Rapid training under a professional of thirty years' experience. Highly recommended. Hundreds of written testimonials. Lessons in Acting, Elocution, Singing, &c. Lessons by post. Low terms. Weekly payments. Become famous. Beware of incompetent imitators. I am author and composer of thousands of successes, also a Theatrical and Variety Agent (Licensed L.C.C.). Write, Mr. WILLIAM PEARCE, 23, Colet-gardens, West Kensington, London, W. 14.

WANTED, for Cinema or Revue, Beginners requiring parts (not crowds or chorus). KINGS, Flat 1, 3, Cranworth-gdns., Brixton.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, Competent Manager for fully licensed Music Hall in Lancashire, stating age, salary, number of years' experience, and where. Apply, Box 1081, "The Era."

WANTED,
Stage Manager for Sketch
(Music Halls).
Write in the first instance, stating terms and experience, to
CAPTAIN HAROLD HOLLAND,
6, Clarendon-street,
Belgravia, S.W. 1.

WANTED, Good Cinema Operator; comfortable permanency for reliable man; no generators; Motiograph projectors. Call at once, or write all particulars. Park Cinema, Plashet-rd., Upton Park, E. 13.

WANTED, experienced Carpenter, for First-class Tour. Salary required and references to MAYFAIR VARIETY AGENCY, LTD., 43, Dover-street, Piccadilly, W. 1.

WANTED, Smart Bill Poster, to help on Stage, make himself generally useful; ineligible for the Army; not afraid of work. Apply at once, IMPERIAL PALACE, Canning Town.

WANTED, Property Master.
Permanent position to suitable man.
Apply, with references, to
WENTWORTH CROKE,
Kennington Theatre, S.E. 11.

WANTED, First-class Doorman for "Monitor and Merrimac" Spectacle, required for Easter Week, and if considered satisfactory, also for Season commencing at Whitsuntide; must be able to draw the public.

Only applicants of exhibition experience such as White City, Earl's Court, &c., need apply.

Superior remuneration for ability.
State experience and salary required to

Secretary,
MONITOR & MERRIMAC, LTD.,
Pleasure Beach, Blackpool.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED
to open April 8, 1918,
Musical Directors
for
Dramatic
and
Vaudeville Business

Royal Osborne Theatre, Manchester,
and
Salford Royal Hippodrome.

Apply by letter,
enclosing references
and
salary required,
to
W. H. BROADHEAD & SON,
Hulme Hippodrome,
Manchester.

WANTED, Musical Conductor for Fred Allandale's "Heave O!" revue; tour to open Monday next; exempt.

Full particulars and absolute lowest terms to W. HASSAM, Hippodrome, Norwich.

WANTED, Violinist (rep.), Orchestral Pianist, 'Cello; ladies or gents.; afternoons and evenings. Particulars, salary required, &c., to MANAGER, The Palace, Bedford.

WANTED, Good Rep. Violinist, denutise, Mar. 27 until April 8; no Sundays. PICTURE COLISEUM, Harlesden, N.W.

WANTED, Violin Reptr. for cinema; S.E. district; about 3½ hours daily, per 6 days.
Apply, MUS. DIR., 24, Fleming-rd., Kennington, S.E. 17.

WANTED, 2 Repetiteur Ladies or Gentlemen for Kingston-on-Thames and East London; Double Bass for East London; and Trio for town near Birmingham. Address, MADAME MAY WALTER, 3, Macclesfield-street, Shaftesbury-avenue, W.

Bournemouth Electric Theatre.
WANTED, to open April 1, Violin (Rep.) and 'Cello, for the above High-class Theatre. Approx. hours 33; no Sundays.
Write, stating terms and refs., to
R. A. LAIDLAW, M. D.

WANTED, Leader, £2 10s.; repetiteur, £2 8s.; for Richmond Hippodrome; twice nightly; A.M.U. only. Apply, MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Richmond Hippodrome.

Coliseum, Barrow-in-Furness.
WANTED Immediately, 1st class Violin Leader, also Rept. Violin; inclusive salary £4 5s. and £3 respectively; Pictures, 6.30 to 10.30, and 6 matinées (no Sundays); comfortable permanency to reliable performers. Full pars. and refs. to ROUTLEDGE, Coliseum, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Two Violinists (ladies), one as leader, with good library; small hall; permanent berths; sisters or friends preferred. Write, Picturedrome, 130, Western-road, Brighton.

WANTED, Good Leader, for Café morning and afternoon, pictures evening. Seaside, perm. Also Lady Players, all instruments, for summer season, St. Anne's and Lytham. Apply, MUS. DIR., 47, Rossall-road, Ansdell.

WANTED, First Violin for South Coast Hotel; six days a week; 4½ hours' playing. State terms required. W., 26a, Crookham-rd., Fulham, S.W. 6.

WANTED, First Violin to open April 1. Terms and references, MANAGER, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, at Easter, Orchestral Engagement (lady), Second Violin preferred; experienced; near. 8, Park-crescent-terrace, Brighton.

WANTED, Second Violin, for hotel work; 6 days weekly; 3½ hous daily work; also to combine part of another engagement, paid extra.
Particulars from G. COOPER,
108, Cheriton-road, Folkestone.

WANTED, lady Violinist; S.W. Cinema; evenings; also Gent., Oboe. DOROTHEA A. VINCENT, 21, Kenilworth-court, Putney, S.W.

WANTED, experienced Violinist (lady) immediately; Cinema; salary £3. Write, S. J., 189, Ladbroke-grove, W.

WANTED,
Violinist (Repetiteur),
for high-class continuous cinema.
Apply,
with terms and refs., to
MANAGER,
Picture House, Ocean-road, South Shields.

WANTED immediately, Violinist (lady or gentleman), to complete trio in high-class picture theatre; only those thoroughly competent in arranging music to pictures need apply. Apply, with particulars, to MANAGER, Picture House, Haymarket, Norwich.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, Lady Violin Leader, for Pictures; 5 hours daily; terms and refs. first letter; open at once. DREW, 22, Lennox-street, Weymouth.

WANTED, April 1, for high-class cinema, good violinist; powerful tone; Tavan's arrangements; experienced; permanency. MANAGER, 84, George's Theatre, Canterbury.

WANTED, Violins, Bass, Flute, and Piccolo, Clarinet, Cornet, Drums, Pianist (ladies or gents.), May 18 to Sept. 27; twice daily. Testimonials, parts., J. H. ROWE, Municipal Orchestra, Aberystwyth.

Grand Theatre, West Hartlepool.
WANTED, 1st class Violin, male or female. Terms, recent refs., &c., to STANLEY ROGERS, Theatre Royal, North Shields.

WANTED, Good Violinist, Cinema, Peckham, every Friday (afternoon and evening). Apply, S., 5, Cumberland-mansions, West End-lane, Hampstead.

WANTED, several Violinists, with or without experience, for London and Seaside Engagements. ABBOTT'S AGENCY, 47, Uxbridge-rd., Shepherd's Bush.

WANTED, Tenting with Sir Robert Fossett's Circus, two Cornets, Trombone, Euphonium, E. Bass, Double Drums; terms £1 15s. COOK, Tibbold, Towcester.

WANTED, Cornet, twice nightly Varieties; permanency; A.M.U. Particulars and terms, FREDK. G. SNELL, Mus. Dir., Hippodrome, Cheltenham.

WANTED, Grand Theatre, Llandudno, March 30, and Easter week, Clarinet, Trombone, Tympani. State inclusive terms, age, refs., and experience. SHEPHARD, 88, Pershore-road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

WANTED, First-class Clarinet Player for twice nightly Picture and Variety Hall; commence Monday, April 1; must be steady, reliable, and ineligible. Address, with lowest terms and references, to A. HAMILTON, Palace Theatre, Sunderland.

BATH PUMP ROOM ORCHESTRA.
WANTED, Contra Bass; must be thoroughly experienced in high-class music; to begin April 15.
Apply, G. B. ROBINSON,
Musical Director.

WANTED, String Bass for pictures and varieties; 4½ hours daily. Terms and refs: first letter, open at once, DREW, 22, Lennox-street, Weymouth.

WANTED, for First-class Variety Halls.

Sheffield Empire: Double Bass.
Liverpool Empire: Second Cornet.
Glasgow Coliseum: Oboe.
Hull Palace: Second Cornet.
Liverpool Olympia: Second Cornet.
Must be experienced and thoroughly competent (A.M.U.). Write, enclosing copies of references, to the ACTING MANAGER at the Hall named.

WANTED, for Zoo Skating Rink, Glasgow, to end of season, and then on tour with Bostock and Wombwell's Menagerie, good Trombone, salary 47s. 6d.; Double Drummer, 45s. weekly. Those used to travelling preferred. Address, E. H. BOSTOCK, Zoo, Glasgow.

WANTED, Bombardon, Euphonium, Trombone, Cornet, Horn, Saxaphone, Clarinet Players, for Stage Band, London production; discharged soldiers and those ineligible write in for comfortable easy berth. State age, height, single or married, and lowest terms net, to Box 1073, "The Era."

WANTED, good experienced 'Cellist, Liverpool Cinema; evenings only. Terms and refs., CONDUCTOR, 1, Rudgrave-place, Egremont, Liverpool.

WANTED, 2 First-class 'Cellists, Organist, and Violinists (male) for West End Cafés. Apply, M.D., 12, Archer-st., W. 1.

WANTED, Good 'Cellist; permanency. Apply, DIMMOCK, Queen's Hall, Palmers Green, N.

WANTED, Good 'Cellist (ineligible), strong tone, used to high-class music; a permanency to right man; open Monday, April 1. Apply for audition to MUSICAL DIRECTOR, Grand Hall, Cinema Theatre, Camberwell, S.E.

DEVONSHIRE PARK ORCHESTRA
EASTBOURNE.
WANTED, 1st Oboe Combine (Cor-Anglaise), flat pitch; commence Monday for 4 or 5 weeks' concert, afternoons and evenings. State terms, wire and write, NORFOLK MEGONE, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.

WANTED, immediately, First-class Organist, orchestral and solos, for grand organ, three manuel (builders, Vincent and Co., Sunderland); must thoroughly understand mechanism and not afraid to use pedals; Tavan and Alder's arrangements; no duds need apply. Send references and terms required. MANAGER, Royal Cinema de Luxe, Ashford, Kent.

WANTED, Orchestral Organists for London and Provincial Engagements. SALON ORCHESTRA SOCIETY, 34, Oxford-street, W. 1.

WANTED, experienced Orchestral Pedal Organist; good sight reader and used to high-class music essential; Tavan, &c. Also 'Cellist. Full particulars and references to MUS. DIR., Arcade Theatre, Worcester.

WANTED, at once, Organist (2 manual and pedal). Apply, MUS. DIR., 165, Oxford-street, after 3 o'clock, except Friday.

WANTED, Experienced Orchestral Pianiste
for High-class Cinema.

State salary, &c.,
Palladium, Southampton.

WANTED, Orchestral Pianist (lady), deputise few weeks, Somerset; evenings; combine string preferred. Box 1,084, "The Era."

WANTED, Conductor-Pianiste, able to arrange, &c.; rehearse at once; open April 1; tour. Apply, CARTER LIVESEY, 85, Kellett-rd., Brixton, S.W. 2.

WANTED, Pianiste (Lady), deputise 3 months, from April 30; 5 days week. Write, GRACE SEAMAN, Pagoda Café, Richmond, Surrey.

WANTED, Orch. Pianist, Gent., Cinema; 6 evgs., 2 mats., April 1. Particulars to DIRECTRESS, 39, Robin Hood-road, Brentwood, Essex.

WANTED, First-class Pianist for Trio (Café), 5 hrs. daily; permanency to good man. Apply, GEORGE DENTON, Grand Café, Hull.

WANTED, Pianist for Picturedrome near Manchester; must be used to Tavan and Alder; only first-class artiste need apply; good salary. M.D., River View, Trafalgar-avenue, Egremont, Ches.

WANTED, Mandolinists and Guitarists, Ladies and Gents., also Lady Drummer. Write, Box 1,044, "The Era."

WANTED, Drummers, for Pictures; Tympani and kit provided; good salary. State experience. Box 1093, "The Era."

WANTED, Drummer, with tympani, Monday next. Wire, JACKSON, Hippo., Rochdale.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for evenings, 6-10.30; only good musicians need apply. Victoria Cinema, New North-road, Islington.

Lytham and St. Anne's.
WANTED Known, Musicians (ladies or gentlemen) contemplating entering into engagements for Lytham and St. Anne's Council Bands next season are requested to communicate at once with MR. J. AINLEY, District Secretary, A.M.U., 16, Ferguson-rd., Blackpool.

WANTED, Boys, 14-16, with slight knowledge of Brass Instruments, for Black Watch Band. Good opening for smart boys. Apply, BANDMASTER AUSTING, Black Watch, Perth.

WANTED, Orchestral Musicians for comfortable summer seaside engt.: 10 to 12 weeks; twice daily, including Sundays. State terms and particulars, MUS. DIR., c/o Parsons, 42, Graham-st., Holbein-place, S.W. 1.

WANTED, sound Orchestral Players, willing to undertake deputy work. Write, SALON ORCHESTRA SUPPLY, 34, Oxford-street, W. 1.

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FINEST TRAINING SCHOOL
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TWELVE PERFORMANCES.
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The People's Popular Place of Amusement.
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WANTED, Eng. by CISSIE FRENCH, Refined Character Vocalist, Mar. 25, April 1, 8, 25, May 6, on. Mechanics' T., Dumfries.

WANTED, March 25, April 1, 8, by THE SISTERS WEBB
(Tina and Inga).
Principal Agents or JOJO WEBB,
Arcade Alhambra, Stirling, N.B.

Theatre Royal, Cradley Heath.
WANTED, Monday, also April 1, by THE VIYELLAS (Beatrice and Evelyn), the Select Harmony Singers and Novelty Character Duettists, in novel scena, with Quick Changes. Wire, Theatre Royal, Cradley Heath, Staffs.

WANTED, March 25, by THE TWO LILLIES, Speciality Singing and Dancing Act, introducing their famous mirror dance. Also vacant April 29, May 27, June 24. 19, Hillside-villas, Bradford.

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WANTED, Mar. 25, Apr. 1, 8, The WORCESTERS (3 ladies), Nautical Scena (mending nets). 10, Chestnut Walk, Worcester.

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WANTED, Monday next and April 1, AL PENNEY,
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Leading Agents or direct.
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WANTED, Monday next and April 1, ALFRED ENGLAND, the great Blind Impressionist and Entertainer, in "Hats and Faces," child mimicry, and humorist sketches, assisted by Phyllis Elsie, the brilliant Welsh Soprano at the piano. Wires and letters, best terms, to MONTPELIER, Marine Parade, Clacton-on-Sea.

WANTED, Monday next, CHARLES CHARD, Singing Comedian and Dancer. Wire, Hippodrome, Exeter.

WANTED, by COVERDALE, Cute, Chatty Comedian, Mar. 25, Town Hall, Walton-on-Naze. P. A., 49, Station-street.

WANTED, by BILLY CHURCHILL, the Panto., Revue, and Musical Comedy Comedian.
April 1, 8, and 22. Wire,
Hippo., Derby.

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WANTED, March 25, April 1, 8, through cancelling Paris engagement.
FRED CARR presents "The Giant Electric Chicken, that lays eggs while you wait." Big Easter Attraction. Also electric flying fish, Zep., aeroplane, &c.
Electric novelty dance.
Comic and startling surprises.
Managers and Agents really requiring a novelty should see this Act at the Surrey Theatre this week.
7.5 and 9.30.
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WANTED, April 15, 29, on, by WAL and ROSA, Great Comedy Patter Act. This, Empire, Shirebrook, Notts. Next, Queen's Theatre, Castleford.

WANTED, by SANDY and MAGGIE, in "Adonis—In a Kilt," 15 mins. "Extra Special" Comedy, Monday, April 8 and 22. MARGARET TUESKI, O.H., Tunbridge Wells. Next, 36, Thorpe-crescent, London, E. 17.

WANTED, Monday, Mar. 25, April 1, 8, by FLORA and ALBERTA, the Comedy Whirligigs, in "Twists and Twirls." This week, Alhambra, Bradford. Wire. After Saturday, 43, Vernon-av., Basford, Nottingham.

WANTED, Mon. next, by STAN and STELLA, the Novelty Comedy Couple, Singing, Dancing, Patter; Clever and Funny Hat and Stick Manipulating. Big success last week, Gaiety, Birmingham. 3rd visit; refer Ben Kennedy, Esq. This, Pal., Bolsover. Wire, 4, Station-rd., Bolsover, Derby.

WANTED, Monday next, by ST. MALO and COOMBS (Gipsy and Sailor), musical, vocal comedy; prop. caravan and ear-tickling concertinas; could work sacred Good Friday. Wire, Palace, Rugby. House add., 5, James-street.

WANTED, Monday next, March 25, RHODE and ROCHE, Original Comedy Novelty Act, "The Lizard's Nest." Just concluded second tour L.T.V. This, Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, S.E. House, 42, Burton-rd. Brixton-rd., S.W. Also vacant April 1. 8, 15. Wire.

WANTED, Eng. by the TWO DANIELS, Novel Negro Comedians and Expert Dancers. Wire, New Theatre, Pontypridd.

WANTED, March 25, April 1, 8, by THE BROS. WEBB
(Jojo and Rutè),
Arcade, Alhambra, Stirling, N.B.
P. A., 4, Speenham-road, Stockwell, S.W.

WANTED, Apr. 1, 8, by the BATES DUO, versatile vaudeville comedy act. 117, Bath-st., Rugby. Next, Tivoli, Hull.

WANTED, March 25 and April 1, DELEVINES and DIXON, an original clean, successful comedy act; between Manchester and Lowestoft; three people in Act.
84, Brunswick-street, C.-on-M., Manchester.

WANTED, Eng. by BERT WILLIAMS, ventriloquist, Mon. next, also Apr. 8. Wire, Hip., Sheerness. H.A., 36, Ranelagh-rd.

ALBERT, Ventriloquist, and his Novel Electric Dancing Figure.
Somewhat different to the rest.
WANTED, March 25 and Easter week. Coms., 10, Naylor-rd., London, S.E. 15.

WANTED, April 1 and 8, TOBASCO, America's Eccentric Wonder Worker, in comedy juggling, funny quick changes, mad magic, producing cartload of paraphernalia; trick props. in abundance. Wire, 24, Morton-road, Leicester.

WANTED, Apr. 8, 15, 22, by MILLER and MOHAMED, modern Acrobatic Eccentrics. This week, Empire, Swadlincote, Derby. Next week, Empire, Shirebrook, Derby. April 1, Hippo., Leigh, Lancs.

WANTED, Monday next, between Manchester and Llanelly; also April 15, 22, South preferred, THE BELLINIS, equilibrists and daring aerial gymnastic pot-pourri act. Wire for Monday to 3, Derby-st., Cheetham, Manchester.

WANTED, March 25, Midlands, for TOKIWA FAMILY, Japanese sensational act. This, Theatre Royal, Dublin. Next, Hippodrome, Belfast.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Monday next, for LILIAN BEAUMONT'S "Sally Ming" or "Woman's Rights" Comedy Sketches; 3 artistes. This, Pal., Warminster, Wilts.

WANTED, Monday next, by J. OLRAC & CO., J. OLRAC & CO. of Acrobatic Comedians and Comediennes, in "Fun in a Drawing Room." Wire, 13, Clarence-st., Gloucester.

LES PLATAS.
Spanish Acrobats and Tumblers.
WANTED, Monday next, also April 1 and 15. This week, Mansfield Empire. Wire for Monday next.

COMPANIES WANTED.

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TO PLAY ONCE NIGHTLY.
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Some receipts taken at doors the last few weeks—
£993 8 9 £483 7 10 £425 2 5
£492 16 1 £930 10 4 £1,016 1 4
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Fifth Pantomime into Crewe last week and broke all records for this or last season. ONCE NIGHTLY AT DOUBLE PRICES.
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ONCE OR TWICE NIGHTLY.
It does not effect the receipts either way

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Misses May Brownlea, Gladys and Mona Wells.
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40 People Travelling 40
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T. Morton Powell said: "Osmond, I have seen thirty-four pantos. this year, from the T.R., Manchester, down, and yours is the best."
Re above vacancies,
HENRY L. OSMOND,
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Furniture, Carpets, and Appointments to value of over £500 carried.
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EASTER, APRIL 1.
EASTER, APRIL 1.
MAY 6.
MAY 6.
MAY 20.
MAY 20.
Between Liverpool and Wolverhampton

This week,
GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON
March 25,
THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON
APRIL 1. EASTER. VACANT.
Between Brighton and Bath.

FISHPINGLE.
A Romance of the Countryside.
By HORACE ANNESLEY VACHELL.

DANIEL McCARTHY.
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HORACE LINGARD.
ROYCE MILTON.
WALLE SPINNER.
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MARJORIE MURRAY.
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STELLA GLADWYNNE.
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Business and Stage Manager
SLAINE MILLS.
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This week,
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THEATRE ROYAL, HALIFAX.
VACANT MAY 27.
VACANT MAY 27.
JUNE 17, 24.

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The Chase for the Blue Diamond.
A Play of Adventure.
By Horace Annesley Vachell and Walter Hackett.

Tour starts MARCH 25.

Mr. Drax ..... ROBERT NEEDHAM
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Ira P. Blodgett .... FRANK ROLLASON
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Bianca Bright ..... EVA BEVINGTON
Mrs. Ira P. Blodgett .... DAISY BLAKE
Tewfik Bey .... GEO. BARRAN
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CAST OF TWENTY.
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(3rd visit).

EDWARD IRWIN as JOE QUINNEY.
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JULY 15 22,
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WHAT A LAD
30 Artistes. 6 Scenes.
Played by the Artistes that made the "Beauty and the Beast" tour such a success.
Cast includes:
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Misses DOLLY MARNEY, MINNIE HALL, OLGA MAREE, HILDA GIBSON.
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THE JOLLITY GIRLS and BIG BEAUTY CHORUS.
WANTED,
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To follow T. R., Stockport. Only open dates until August.
Production date open for "Beauty and the Beast."
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A NIGHT OF BRIGHTNESS
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New Scenery and Dresses.

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Only Vacant Date to July 8.

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THE BETTER 'OLE.

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NEW EDITION IN THREE GORGEOUS SCENES.
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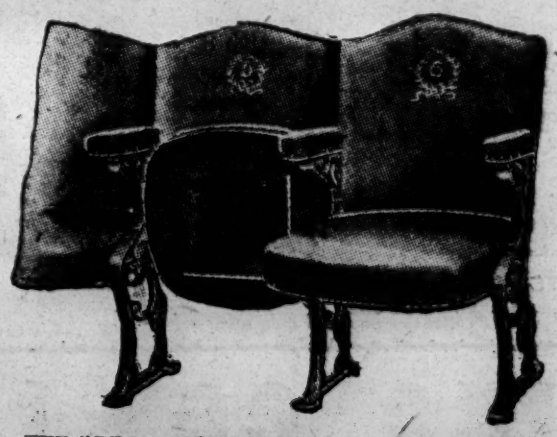

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THE PROFESSION WITH THE COLOURS

Mr. R. M. MacDougall, the general manager of the "Mrs. Pomeroy's Reputation" company, is a man whom many would envy and all must admire. He and his seven sons were present at the Retreat from Mons, three of his boys making the great sacrifice. This record in itself is remarkable, but when it is added that no fewer than forty-five cousins were all in this memorable engagement, admiration will be increased for the MacDougalls who so readily took on such a big portion of their country's burden.

2nd Lieut. Claude B. Stratton has now been exempted from further military service from the Royal Flying Corps, and has joined up with the "Houp La" Co., and opens at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, as assistant acting manager to Mr. Foster Horsfield this week.

H. Louis Wilson, formerly of various West End theatres and principal touring companies, is now on the staff of the 4th London General Hospital, and has the arrangements for the entertainment of the wounded soldiers. He would be pleased to hear from managers, where business will permit, who would invite parties for matinées. Please direct communications to H. Louis Wilson, 543161, R.A.M.C., Company Office, 4th London General Hospital, S.E.5.

Jack Patterson, the eccentric novelty juggler, after four and a half months in military hospital, has now been discharged from His Majesty's Forces, and is at his home in Brixton Being still in a somewhat weak state of health, he has decided to take a few weeks' rest. He had one year 151 days' service with the Colours.

Lance-Corporal Bert Foulger, well known to the cinema trade in Glasgow and elsewhere, died last week in St. Andrews, where he had gone to undergo an examination for an additional stripe. His health, never of the best, had not proved equal to the rigours of Army training. He was buried at Bradford on Wednesday last.

Eric H. Albury, R.A.M.C. (T.), is on leave in town after an absence of 14 months in France and Flanders. Mr. Albury, who was severely gassed in Flanders, has now nearly 3½ years' service to his credit, having joined the Territorial R.A.M.C. Field Ambulance in 1914.

THE QUAINTS IN FRANCE.

"Somewhere" in France, a jovial band of military pierrots (all serving in the R.A.M.C.), called the Quaints, travel round to the hospitals and recreation huts, by permission of their commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel W. L. Steele, and give concerts to the troops and wounded Tommies. They have worked hard and loyally in their efforts to cheer and brighten the lives of our brave lads at the Front. Their leader, Pte. A. D. C. Williams, a professional entertainer and actor in pre-war days, is a host in himself, inspiring his fellow-artistes by his own versatility and unflagging humour in chorus songs and excellently rendered monologues. Last Christmas the Quaints produced a "potted" pantomime, "Hello, Aladdin!" in four scenes, which proved an instantaneous success. They are now giving their new entertainment, including a screamingly funny sketch entitled "Hullo, Cinema!" Pte. Williams as 'Arry (a coster) and Sergt. F. Bennison as 'Liza (his donah) portray their respective characters in a most realistic manner. The pierrot suits and stage upholstery of pale blue were a gift to Pte. Williams for his troupe from Miss Lily Elsie; and Mrs. Patrick Campbell and Mr. Nelson Keys have also sent out some very fine stage costumes.

AN AIR SERVICE REVUE.

Although the authorities have done excellently in organising entertainments for the troops, and artistes themselves have responded magnificently to many requests, there are many stations in Great Britain which are difficult to reach owing to want of transport, and commanding officers, therefore, very naturally encourage their men to amuse themselves. To this end a new revue, entitled "Jingles," was produced at Tregantle Fort by the R.N.A.S. recently, and reflected the greatest credit on all concerned.

The book is by Messrs. C. Volk, C. Moon, and Fred Groves. It cannot, indeed, be said that this was the work of gifted amateurs, because the two latter are quite well known in the profession, whilst the first is a popular South African journalist.

Unlike many of its kind, this revue has a plot, the thread of which is not lost until the dropping of the curtain on the last act. Generally speaking, the story concerns the love of a young Prince of Santagonia (V. V. Pedlar) for Sylvia Pendlebury, the daughter of an old professor. They cannot marry because of their respective stations, but the professor has a potion inducing forgetfulness which is used with the desired effect. Among other potions in the possession of the inventive professor is one for compelling the truth, and another for producing youth. The play is developed and carried through three acts of bright dialogue and tuneful music.

There are, of course, no ladies on the station of the R.N.A.S., so the somewhat difficult part of Sylvia was undertaken by Mr. S. P. Ball, whose make-up and voice were most deceptive. In Act 3 a topical ditty, written by Flight Sub.-Lieut. A. C. Kermode, R.N., and Sub.-Lieut. W. H. Evans, R.N.V.R., entitled "Tregantlisms," and sung by four members of the company, proved very much to the liking of the audience. Of the comedians, Mr. G. Pringle, as the Mayor of Crafthole, probably scored the greatest hit of the play.

Mr. Fred Groves, of course, needs no commendation here. He will be remembered in London and the provinces for his funny Coffee Bar sketch, which was repeated in the course of the revue, with some additional business.

A sketch was also introduced, entitled "A Bit of Old China," by Mr. C. Moon.

At the conclusion of the revue Admiral J. De Mastre Hutchinson (Commanding), who was present with a large number of officers, gave unstinted praise to all concerned. The performances were repeated several times, the proceeds being given to naval charities.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. GREEN.—*G. H. Chirgwin was born on Dec. 13, 1854.*

HEATHCOTE.—*See reply to M. Green.*

F. M. G.—(1) *Miss Marie Lloyd was born on Feb. 12, 1870.* (2) *See answer to M. Green.*

ONE IN DOUBT.—*A reply will be given next week*

THE PLAY IN PARIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Two new plays have been presented recently to the Paris audiences, and both have been well received. At the Théâtre de la Porte St. Martin, Messrs. Hertz and Coquelin have produced "Un soir, au front . . ." ("One evening at the front"), by Mr. Henry Kistemaeckers. The Château de Sauliécourt, somewhere on the front, has been retaken by the French troops, and a posse of auxiliary forces occupy the premises, of which Lieutenant Siredon is in command. The mistress of the manor comes with a special permit to fetch some papers, and whatever has been left of her goods and chattels. Siredon loves Marie-Anne Heller; but she lives only for her son and for the memory of her husband, a naturalised German, who had disappeared at the Morhange battle. Whilst she opens drawers and cupboards to take away her late husband's clothes she discovers a valise containing a German uniform, and learns that her husband, after all, was a German officer and a traitor. Meanwhile, the lieutenant is told that a spy has interfered with the telephone wires in order to give information to the enemy. A French captain enters abruptly, and his manners are so rude that Siredon smells a rat and leaves him with Marie-Anne. The French captain is no other than her husband, and Marie-Anne begs Siredon to save him for her child's sake. Siredon makes him put on his German uniform, so that he will no more be a spy, but a prisoner of war, to be guarded by a sentry. Marie-Anne goes away, after confessing her love to the lieutenant, who, wanting to redeem what he calls his weakness, leaves to join in the first attack. Heller, however, not wanting his German brothers to think he surrendered, defies the sentry, who shoots him dead.

M. André Brulé was the Lieutenant Siredon, and Mme. Madeleine Lely interpreted the part of Marie-Anne Heller. Both are great artistes.

At the Théâtre Antoine, our great actor and producer, Gemier, presented Shakespeare's "Anthony and Cleopatra." It is a fine production on a rather small stage, but M. Gemier knows how to handle crowds, and his novel arrangement of the staging reminds one of grand spectacular displays in big arenas. Gemier as Anthony, and Mme. Andrée Megard as Cleopatra, were perfect in their parts.

NEW MUSIC.

ENOCH AND SONS.

Easthope Martin's "Come to the Fair," "An Interlude," and "Hatfield Bells" (lyrics by Helen Taylor), published under the title "Three More Songs of the Fair," can be sung equally well either as single numbers or as an A, B, and C group, for the necessary contrast of sentiment is in them. The first is jovial and bucolic, with a hearty, well-marked rhythm; the second is sung by a lover who leaves the noise and gaiety behind and goes into the "hush of the meads," to dream. The music cleverly suggests the night stillness and the breath of the faint wind that sways the rushes. In the last, the lover tells cheerfully of the dream's anticipated matrimonial conclusion, to the accompaniment of Hatfield bells and a "nicely stored bag of crowns."

Also by Easthope Martin is the setting of W. H. Ogilvie's "Timber Lore," otherwise called "A Song of the Woodland Elves." The vigorous, hearts-of-oak sort of spirit in the verses suggests the writer's belief that sprites and pixies and such-like have patriotic hearts beating in their unsubstantial bosoms—an idea that strikes one as being "quite English." There is nothing elfish about the music—it is sturdy and "human" to match the words. "Timber-Lore" is a fine "war-time sentiment" song.

From May Brahe's fluent pen come "A Mother's Heart" (words by Fred. E. Weatherly) and "I Passed By Your Window" (words by Helen Taylor). The first sings of love maternal, enduring through storm and stress as in the time of roses, in phrases of tender sincerity; the second, also a song of love—of a less stable sort—is appropriately warm in feeling, but would be more satisfactory if the verses' change of mood, from "good-morning" to "good-night," were reflected in a change of melody in the music. To a baritone on the look-out for a vivacious, vigorous war song, patriotic, yet neither bombastic nor bragging, "Saint George of England," by C. Fox Smith and Charles V. Stanford, can be heartily recommended. It brings reminders of another, and a famous, song of the same character—"The Yeomen of England" to wit. Beautiful in its simplicity and spiritual feeling, and demanding equally beautiful singing, is Landon Ronald's setting of "The Lamb," the poem in which William Blake compares the creature with the Saviour, its Creator, who, he tells it, "gave it life and bid it feed." It is to be hoped that Blake was a vegetarian. The idea that he might have sat down to roast lamb after writing such sentiments strikes a painfully jarring note.

"Fate's Discourtesy," No. 2 of the four songs, "The Fringes of the Fleet," by Rudyard Kipling and Edward Elgar, is, like its companions, also published singly. It is a fine, sturdy song, true-blue, with a whiff of salt breeze about it.

Religious songs of the fervent type represented by Helen Taylor and Arthur Meale's "After" are always in demand. This one needs a voice of dramatic quality, and is grateful to sing. It would be still more effective with accompaniment part for organ. Five amorous ditties of varying shades of sentiment complete the parcel. Clinton Scollard and John Hopton's "A Sailor's Love Song" is at its best in its refrain, which is in 3-4 time, and has an attractive lilt. Helen Taylor and Cleude B. Yearsley's "Buttercups are Blowing" sings the spring of the year and the springtime of love in strains both tuneful and joyous. Also by Helen Taylor—that prolific lyric writer—are the words of "Best of All," which have inspired Gerald Grayling to invent bright, healthy, and buoyant music to fit them. "The Long White Road," by Charles Knight and Francis Adair, is a Darby and Joan ballad with a rather conventional, but sweetly suave, melody in 6-8 time; and in Edward Lockton and Stanley Dickson's "Little Connemara Rose" we have the frankly sentimental song of the "happy garden" wherein trees are shady and flowers bloom all the year round. It owns a placidly pleasant refrain in waltz measure.

Mr. Leonard Robson will conclude a tour as Dr. Napier (Mr. Irving's part), in "Lady Cumber," at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, on March 30.

PRODUCTIONS OF THE MONTH

FEBRUARY.

"Bert and 'Erb," piece, by Hugh E Wright; East Ham Palace, Feb. 13.
"Bing Boys on Broadway, The," revue, in two acts and nine scenes, "told" by George Grossmith and Fred Thompson, written by Fred Thompson and Harry M. Vernon, music by Nat. D. Ayer, lyrics by Clifford Grey; Alhambra, Feb. 16.
"Blame the Cinema!" play, in one act, by Martin Lane; Coliseum, Feb. 4.
"Blighty," revue, in five scenes, book by E. Byam Wyke; Granville, Walham Green, Feb. 11.
"Bobo," musical comedy, in four scenes; Chelsea Palace, Feb. 4.
"Bull-Dog Breed, The," dramatic naval episode, in one act, by Wing-Commander Charles F. Noyes and Lieut. José Levey; Finsbury Park Empire, Feb. 18.
"Cheating Cheaters," play, in four acts, by Max Marcin; Strand, Feb. 4.
"Come What May," South African play, in three acts, by Patrick O'Malley; Royal, Worthing, Feb. 18.
"Cupid in a Caravan," farcical comedy, in three acts, by Ernest Goodwin; Empire, Swindon (Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund matinée), Feb. 9.
"Cushy Job, A," one-act comedy, by Captain E. C. Baker; Surrey (first in London), Feb. 4.
"Dead City, The," tragedy, in five acts, by Gabriele d'Annunzio, translated by Arthur Symons; Court (Stage Society), Feb. 25.
"Dear Sir—Unless!" comedy, in one act, by Michael Morris; Coliseum, Feb. 4.
"Freaks, The," "an idyll of Suburbia," in three acts, by Sir Arthur W. Pinero; New, Feb. 14
"Girl and the Puppet, The," play, by Pierre Lovys and Pierre Frandaie, translated by Dr. Chalmers Mitchell; Princes (Pioneer Players), Feb. 17.
"Gold Stripe, A," comedy of Cockney life, by Matthew Boulton; Tottenham Palace, Feb. 18.
"La Volonte de L'Homme," comedy, in three acts, by Tristram Bernard; Garrick (French Players), Feb. 3.
"Lady Emma's Romance," farcical play, by Herbert Thomas; T.R., Bournemouth, Feb. 4.
"Lilac Domino, The," operetta, in three acts, book by Harry B. Smith, music by Charles Cuvillier; Empire, Feb. 21.
"Little Brother, The," play, in a prologue and three acts, by Benedict James; Ambassadors, Feb. 6.
"Lost Leader, The," play, in three acts, by Lennox Robinson; Abbey, Dublin, Feb. 19.
"Man She Bought, The," drama, in six scenes, by Walter Saltoun; Theatre Royal, Stratford, Feb. 11.
"Nothing But the Truth," American farce comedy, in three acts, by James Montgomery; Savoy (first in London), Feb. 5.
"Princess Gioia, The," ballet, by Colin M'Leod Campbell; Court (matinée in aid of St. Dunstan's Hostel), Feb. 5.
"Realities," "new Ibsen play"; Court, Feb. 18.
"Sacrifice," play, in seven episodes, by Sir Rabindranah Tagore; King George's Hall, Y.M.C.A., Feb. 9.
"Son of the Sea, A," drama, in ten scenes, by Clifford Rean; Elephant and Castle, Feb. 4.
"Storm Wrack," one-act musical play, by James Lyon, text by T. Barlow; Shakespeare, Liverpool, Feb. 15.
"Strawberries and Cream," musical comedy, libretto by Jack Cromo, music by Frank Corri and Albert Vernon; Theatre Royal, King's Lynn, Feb. 25.
"Tanks," play, in one act, by Hugh Mytton; Vaudeville Pavilion, Devonshore Park, Eastbourne, Feb. 28.
"Too Much Money," farce, in three acts, by Israel Zangwill; Royal, Glasgow, Feb. 18.
"Twisters," sketch; Poplar Hippo., Feb. 18.
"Voice on the 'Phone, The," drama, in eight scenes, by Clifford Rean (originally produced at Hippo., Huddersfield, on Sept. 7, under the title of "Blackmail"); Elephant and Castle, Feb. 11.
"War in the Marshall Family," farcical comedy, in four acts, by John Hobbs; Palace Pier Theatre, Brighton, Feb. 25.
"Wooing of Janet, The," comedy sketch, by A. Patrick Wilson; Alexandra, N., Feb. 4.

THE MAGPIES AT THE ÆOLIAN HALL.

On Thursday evening a highly successful concert was given by the Magpies' company of society entertainers, under the patronage of Surgeon-General G. L. Foster, C.B., at the above hall, in aid of the London Canadian Medical Services' Athletic Club. A goodly number of well-known London artistes were also booked to appear. Sam Mayo, the drowsy comedian, gained great applause with "Do You Want Us to Lose the War?" and "Ha, ha, ha, he, he, he"; popular Maidie Scott gave three songs, "And the Maiden Said Amen," the "Billy and Johnny" apple tragedy, and "The Little Bird on Milly's Hat"; Major J. C. Carson proved quite a gifted and resourceful humorist in "The Little Old Ford Ran On" and a "nigger story." Other names on the programme were Whit Cunliffe, Harry Weldon, George Robey, Norman McKinnel, Owen Nares, and Misses Daphne Pollard and Margaret Cooper.

The Magpies number some very clever and sweet-voiced members of the fair sex, and their repertoire is extensive and varied. Miss Norah Saunders (soprano) gained golden opinions in her rendition of "Break o' Day" and "Sweetest L'il Feller," and Miss Clarice Stark, both as an elocutionist in "A Boy's Essay on Henry VIII." and "His First Long Trousers," and in "God Keep You Safe" and "Until," beautifully sung, proved a great attraction. Miss Sylvia Jervis (mezzo-soprano) scored in "Bird of Love Divine" and "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning." Miss Mollie Mayen (soubrette, elocutionist, and violinist) made quite a hit with "Why Don't You Make Me" and "Foolish Questions." Miss Dorothy Deane did her share to make the evening a success, both as pianoforte soloist and accompanist. A number of duets and concerted pieces were sung by the above, aided and abetted by Misses Penelope Sewell, Skerrow, and Betty Rae, "Smoke Clouds," "Dreamy Lullaby," "Sympathy," "Wonderful Boy," and "The Moon Hath Raised Her Lamp Above," being among the most attractive items. The Misses Clarice Stark and Mollie Mayen acted as musical directors.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

In order to effect a saving of space the following abbreviations are used in these columns:—P.: Proprietor. M.: Manager. G. M.: General Manager. C.: Chairman. R. M.: Resident Manager. A. M.: Acting Manager. Asst. M.: Assistant Manager. L.: Lessee. M. D.: Managing Director. Mus. D.: Musical Director. S.: Secretary.

ABERDEEN.

H.M. THEATRE. — P., Robert Arthur Theatres Co.; A. M., Mr. H. Adair Nelson.—Martin Harvey and company in "Rosemary," "A Cigarette Maker's Romance," and "Davy Garrick." Special matinée of "Rosemary," Wednesday, the entire proceeds being for the Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund.

TIVOLI. — P., Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; A. M., Mr. Walter Gilbert.—Corson's Instrumentalists; "The Girls from the Golden West"; Charles Cardow, author, composer, musician; Tony, the roper on the tight-rope; Evelyn Beresford and Co., in "The Pendant"; Charles Conyers, entertainer at the piano; and pictures.

PALACE.—P., Tivoli (Aberdeen); A. M., Mr. Geo. Neill.—Edward Edwards and Co., in comedy sketch, "Fooling the Parson"; Cook and Lewis, comedians; the Odols, gymnastic experts; and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 141, Union-street.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND.—P., Accrington Grand Theatre and Empire Co.; R. M., Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week the Allington Charsley Grand Opera Company is the popular attraction here, opening on Monday with "Il Trovatore." The cast includes Messrs. E. C. Hedmont, John Child, Fred Hargreaves, C. Moorhouse, W. Barratt, E. Llewellin, Jas Morris, George Neilson, Misses Ethel Austen, Kitty Brownlees, Bessie Leoni, Olive Westwood, and Janet Campbell.

NEW HIPPODROME.—G. M., Mr. L. Connor; R. M., Mr. J. H. Pollard.—This week (twice nightly) the premier attraction here is supplied by Miss Bessie Brenne, comedienne; and Walter Erard, the marvellous pianist; Colbert, juggler; Maud Edwards, ventriloquist; The Coens, equilibrists; Godfrey Paris, comedian; Jackson and Marte, comedians and cross-talkers; and the great illusion "The Magic Crucible."

Boots, The Chemists, 89-91, Blackburn-rd.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Percy Leonard.—The British Maid Productions present revue, "Have a Guess."

BIRKENHEAD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole P. & M., Mr. W. W. Kelly; A. M., Mr. Hal Lloyd.—Mr. Albert Douglas's company are presenting The Jeffersons with gratifying success. The company is fortunate in the inclusion in its ranks of Mr. Wilfred Shine, who is a pronounced success in the title-rôle. The comedy is preceded by the monologue "The Telegram," in which Miss Moyra McCrose appears to decided advantage.

ARGYLE.—Sole P. & M., Mr. J. D. Clarke; A. M., Mr. John Keating.—Mr. Harry Weldon, the popular comedian, is the premier attraction this week. Hayman and Franklin, in their act "Smilestones," have established themselves favourites, and a fine combination also includes the Reynolds Payne and Ina Hill trio of admirable musical artistes; Hector and Lollette and their sagacious dog; Miss Florina Cody, Canadian girl rifle shot; Miss May Edouin, comedienne; Billy Deane, comedian; and Brown's Royal Bioscope.

HIPPODROME.—Sole L. & M., Mr. D. J. Clarke; A. M., Mr. Chas. Eastwood.—Mr. Albert De Courville's revue "Hotch Potch" is doing big business. A fine company includes Fred Kitchen and Nora Delany, both of whom are great favourites.

Boots, The Chemists, 239-241, Grange-rd.

BURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; G. M., Mr. Otto C. Culling; R. M., Mr. J. Allan Newton.—Mr. Albert Chevalier brings his own company and presents "My Old Dutch."

Boots, The Chemists, 5, Silver-st.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—P., The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Sec. & G. M., Mr. F. A. Hastings.—"Daddy."

HIPPODROME.—L. & M., Mr. Allan Milton.—The Myra Forbes Trio, vocalists, dancers, and comedy act; The Dandy Mascots, concert party; Daisy Ash, songs; pictures, &c.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—M. D., Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—Horsfield and Woodward's company in "Wild Heather."

PLAYHOUSE.—M., Mr. W. C. Gibbs.—The Sisters Gaye, in vocal scena, entitled "Ireland," and pictures.

Boots, The Chemists, 31, Petty Cury, and 6, Market-hill; 86, Mill-road.

CROYDON.

GRAND.—G. M., Mr. Cyril Royce; Mus. D., Mr. H. E. J. Nation.—"The Widow's Might," including Miss Rosie Begarnie.

EMPIRE PALACE.—M. D., Mr. Charles Gulliver; M., Mr. Eustace Jay. — Syd Walker and Co., in "Stolen Fruit"; Wish Wynne, Farr and Farland, Harry Ford, Lilian Byrne, pictures, Athas and Collins, and Thornton and De'ia.

DARWEN.

HIPPODROME, LTD.—L., Messrs. E. & A. Sherrock; Mus. D., Mr. Rd. Fielding.—P. S. Ritherdon and Co. present "From Mill to Mansion," twice nightly.

Boots, The Chemists, 10, Market-street.

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — P., Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; R. M., Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—"The Better 'Ole."

EMPIRE.—P., Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; G. M., Mr. Geo. E. Smith; R. M., Mr. E. J. Jackett; Mus. D., Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—James Reed, Charles Kasrac and his Devil-may-cares; the Fieldes, gymnastic oddities; Bert Southwold, his pink lady, and a piano; Kit O'More, Irish girl with golden voice; Will Collinson presents burlesque, "Papering a House"; Sharpe's Tromboneers.

Boots, The Chemists, 38, Market-place.

DONCASTER.

GRAND.—Lessees, Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North.—Miss Ray Perry and Co. present "The Truth," "Ghosts" and "The Easiest Way."

PALACE.—P., Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; M., Mr. J. W. North.—The Six Brothers Luck present their musical burlesque, "Some Treasure"; the Frank Eden Troupe of Kanaka dancers.

Boots, The Chemists, 71, Frenchgate.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—L. & M., Messrs. Murray King and Clark.—"The Better 'Ole," with Mr. Martin Adeson as Old Bill.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—M. D., Mr. Sidney W. Winter; M., Mr. Ernest Bridgen.—The musical play "Allotmente."

DEVONSHIRE PARK WINTER GARDEN.—M. & Sec., Mr. E. A. Brown.—Daily concerts by the Devonshire Park Orchestra under the direction of Mr. Norfolk Megone. Vocalist, Marjorie Reynoldson, mezzo soprano.

Boots, The Chemists, 14-16, Sussex-gardens; 6, Seaside.

GREENOCK.

KING'S.—P. & M., Messrs. A. B. & J. J. Wright.—The Unity Revue Company present a new version of the Scotch comedy revue, "Bachles."

Boots, The Chemists, 24, Hamilton-street.

LEITH.

ALHAMBRA.—G. M., Mr. Henry Lee; A. M., Mr. Lawson Steele; Mus. D., Mr. J. W. Middleton.—Harry Ray and Lillie Calden bring their latest musical comedy "The Blue Boys" here this week.

Boots, The Chemists, 15, Leith Walk.

OXFORD.

NEW THEATRE.—P., Oxford Theatre Co., Ltd.; M. & Sec., Mr. S. C. Dorrill; Asst. M., Mr. W. F. Smith.—During the first part of this week, when for a time the house reverts to the twice nightly performances, Mr. Arthur Gibbons' company is here on a return visit with "The Rotters." Included in the cast are Mr. James Harcourt, Miss Minnie Rayner, Mr. George Stockman, Mr. Jack Landon, and Miss Doris Thomson. On Thursday Messrs. Henry Dallas and Louis Casson's company is due here with the musical comedy, "The Marriage Market."

Boots, The Chemists, 1, Queen-st., and 120, St. Aldates, Carfax.

REDDITCH.

PALACE THEATRE.—R. M., Mr. Joseph Baron; Mus. D., Mr. F. A. Head.—Chrissie Claremonte and company presents "Double or Quits."

SALFORD.

REGENT, LTD.—M. D., Mr. W. Turner; G. M., Mr. Bert Wright.—R. A. Roberts in "Ringing the Changes"; Jack Audley, comedian; May Weatherley, vocalist; Gerrard, violinist; C. Godfrey, lady juggler; Master Roy Max, comedian and dancer; Alice Prince, concertina soloist; Max and Rep, hand balancers.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—P., Messrs. Wm. Hy. Broadhead & Son; R. A. M., Mr. Fred Bernardo.—Musical show "It's A Bargain," including Archie Pitt, Gracie Field, Mona Frewer, and Pat Aza.

SCARBOROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—M. D., Mr. W. Peacock; R. M., Mr. Shelford Walsh.—Monday and Wednesday, Mr. Ernest E. Norris and company in "Lady Windermere's Fan." Tuesday and Thursday, "The Adventures of Lady Ursula." Friday and Saturday, "Captain Swift."

Boots, The Chemists, 1, St. Nicholas-st., and 18, Newborough.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND.—R. M., Mr. Arthur Weston.—Mr. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath's company in "The Arcadians," including Harry Cooke as Simplicitas.

PALACE.—R. M., Mr. Will Murray; A. M., Mr. Harry Taylor.—Julian Wylie and Jas W. Tate present the American comedy success "The Dummy," including Wee Georgie Wood; Marcelle Morray, Belgian soprano; Jack Cosgrove and Ethel Burns, crazy vocalists.

HIPPODROME.—R. M., Mr. Harry Yardley.—Miss Vesta Tilley is here in her latest success "Six Days' Leave"; Dorothy Storm, the double voiced vocalist; Mareski, the crazy fiddler; The Whittakers, popular pantomime parodists; Taylor and Nicholls, comedians; and The Three Jees, in comedy wire act.

Boots, The Chemists, 84, High-street, Shirley; 97, East-street; 25, Above Bar; 105, St. Mary's-street; 107, Shirley-road; 29, London-road; 155, Bevois Hill.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S.—L. & M., Mr. S. F. Davidson; G. M., Mr. Lloyd Townrow.—Mr. George Edwardes' company in the musical comedy "The Maid of the Mountains."

THEATRE ROYAL.—P., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; B. M., Mr. Richard L. Griffiths.—Mr. Albert Sember's repertoire company, including Miss Maud Morton Powell, in the drama "The Soldier Prince."

EMPIRE.—M. D., Mr. Richard Thornton; G. M., Mr. Harry Esden; B. M., Mr. A. E. Barnes.—The musical comedy melodrama "The Lads of the Village."

Boots, The Chemists, 62, Fawcett-st.

WATFORD.

PALACE.—M., Mr. Tom Taylor; M. D., Mr. Herbert A. Hamson.—Miss Ethel Neuman and company are presenting here "The Mollusc." Miss Neuman, always a welcome visitor to Watford, plays the part of Mrs. Baxter; Miss Ailsa Grahame impersonates Miss Roberts; Mr. Julius Knight sustains the rôle of Tom Kemp; and Mr. Alan Macdonald represents Mr. Baxter.

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NEXT WEEK'S CALLS.

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1918.

The Editor relies upon the good faith of managers and other, and cannot accept responsibility with regard to any inaccuracies or changes which may be made in the calls.

BOSTOCK TOUR.

BLANTYRE PICTURE HOUSE (rehearsal, 5.30).—Stella French, Pictures.

HAMILTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1). — May Sherrard, Will Lacey, Harry Atkinson, Dancing Madcaps, Kit O'More, McDonald and Payne, Kamakura Family, Pictures.

IPSWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—Fred Allandale presents "Heave O!" Revue, Arthur Diamond, Emeric and Ainslie, Pathé Gazette.

IPSWICH LYCEUM THEATRE. — "Capt. Drew on Leave."

NORWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2).—A. P. James and Co. in "The Strike," Marcelle Molray, Frank Foster, Picquays and Imp, Wrangham and Gordon, J. F. Willis, C. Floydd, Pathé Gazette, Kotchensky Troupe.

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL. — "Wild Heather."

PAISLEY RINK VARIETY PALACE (rehearsal, 6.30).—Judge's Sea Lions, Harry Balcon, Gerrard, Pictures.

KENNEDY CIRCUIT.

BIRMINGHAM GAIETY.—Warderic H. Giles, and company booked.

CANNOCK HIPPODROME.— Bannister Howard's "Belle of New York."

WEST BROMWICH EMPIRE.—Jazons Montgomery's revue, "Come and Cuddle Us."

WEST BROMWICH OLYMPIA.—Mayfair Production revue, "All British."

WEST BROMWICH THEATRE ROYAL —Cecil Gray's company in "A Perfect Day."

LONDON SYNDICATE HALLS

BRIXTON EMPRESS (rehearsal, 12).—Jack Pleasants, The Mongadors, Twelve Manchester Mites, Kelson Trueman's company in "A Gold Stripe," 8 Rosettes, Athas and Collins, The 3 Renos, Lucy Brennan, Arthur Stroud, Bioscope.

CHELSEA (rehearsal, 12).—The Dorinos, The Gomez Trio, Kiddy Kennedy, Maximillian the Great, Milton Bros., The Four Its, Morton and Bowman, The Mountfords, Bioscope, Ada Durham.

EAST HAM (rehearsal, 12). — Jack Pleasants, Takeo and Koma Namba, Niblo and Doris, Naughton and Gold, Emilie Lay and Pianist, Eric Brooks, Ernie Whitmee, Franco, Lily Eyton, Bioscope.

EUSTON (rehearsal, 12).—Bert Lloyd and company in "The Get-Away," Hamamura Family, Mazdah, Joe and Betty Binns, McKinley, Mlle. Alcide Capitaine, Parky Knight, Daisy Morell, Bioscope, Joan Tate.

LONDO NPAVILION (rehearsal, 11.30). —Ernest C. Rolls' production "Any Old Thing."

METROPOLITAN (rehearsal, 12.15).—Terence Byron and company in "Simple Simon," Sutcliffe Family, Two Cures, Manny and Roberts, Maggie Clifton and Partner, The Edivictas, Elsie Roby, Win and Windle, Halma, Bioscope.

OXFORD (rehearsal, 12).—C. B. Cochran's production, "The Better 'Ole."

SOUTH LONDON (rehearsal, 12) — Charles Windermere and company in "Sarah Sleeps Out," Gotham Comedy Girls, McAllister and Smith, Atherton and Hyde, Walsh and Milne, Armstrong and Howarth, M'Lita Dolores, Daly and Marr, Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM (rehearsal, 12).—Mlle. Irma Lorraine, Foreman and Fannan, The Real McKays, The Three Morrellys, Dolly Elsworthy, Harry Bedford, The Dainty Daines, Sergt. Brennan, Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW (rehearsal, 1).—Moss' Empires, Ltd., present "Zig-Zag."

WATFORD (rehearsal, 1).—Miss Ethel Newman and company in "Jane."

LONDON THEATRES OF VARIETIES.

BALHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4). —Gus Elen, Harry Champion, Charles Whittle, Daisy Dormer, Nella Webb, Amourges Duo, Grovettas, Bert Lloyd and Co. in "What a Pal," Bioscope.

CAMBERWELL PALACE (rehearsal, 4). —Harry Day's revue "Pleasure Bound," The Violas, George Newburn, Will Van Allen, Bioscope.

CLAPHAM GRAND PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Andrew Melville presents "On His Majesty's Service," Bioscope.

CROYDON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).— Amateur Carnival, Gilbert Heron and Co., Daly and O'Malley, Red, White and Blue Troupe, Stanlinis, Leo Ray, Ern. E. Roma, Colbert, Emerald and Dupre, Bioscope.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE (rehearsal, 4).—Gertie Gitana, Farr and Farland, Lottie Collins, Carter Livesey and Co., "Would-be Actors," Campbell and Scott, Fred Keeton, Jan McLean, May Kearsley, Arthur Gilroy, Bioscope.

HOLBORN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).— Ernie Lotinga and Co. in "Wanted, a Wife," Anna Dorothy, Barleycorn Players, Mary Mayfren and Co. in "The Woman of Louvain," Percy Honri, Maggie Benson, Lilian Byrne, The Holsons, Bioscope.

ILFORD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4). —Ray and Parson's revue "Where's the Chicken," O'Gorman Brothers, Wee Georgie Harris, Sid Jay, Bioscope.

ISLINGTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).—E. Taylor Platt's Co., "The Man Who Stayed at Home," Bioscope.

KILBURN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).— Vaudeville Productions presents "The Dummy," Isa Wise, Bert Weston, Orpheus, Alice Hollander, Bioscope.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Champion, Mountebanks, S. Wyndham, Dusty Rhodes, Alec Kendal, Cavendish Four, Dainty Doris, Mildred Maud, Phil Rallis Trio, Bioscope.

PALLADIUM (rehearsal, 11.30).—Jay Laurier, Malcolm Scott, Amy Evans, Ernie Mayne, Hilda Glyder, Marie Dainton, Beatie and Babs, Four Silvios, Bioscope, Francis and Alfred Olly, Oakley Trio.

POPLAR HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4). —Dorothy West Wymes' Co. "Alias Jimmy Valentine," Bioscope.

PUTNEY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4). —Syd Wilker and Co. in "Stolen Fruit," Waltina, Tom Leamore, Spence and Josceleyn, Ethel Leslie, Wilson Hallett, Marion Scott, Bioscope, Nita Tanwey.

SHOREDITCH OLYMPIA (rehearsal, 4). —Leo Fritz presents "The Kodak Girl," Katie Hughes, G. F. Ford, Dick Tubb, Borneo Gardner, Bioscope.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Farr and Farland, Amateur Carnival, E. D. Nicholls and Co., The Altos, Taylor and Sumers, Daisy Griff, Princess Iwa, Louie Tinsley, Millie Jillson, Bioscope.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Harry Day's revue "Buttercups," Noblett, Marjory Fulton, Bioscope, Harry Brown.

MACNAGHTEN TOUR.

(Rehearsal all halls, 12.)

BLACKBURN. — Pictures, De Busse, Lilian Rickard, Giordano, Bert Bradford, Eddy Brown, "Long, Long Trail," Mart and Pep.

BRAFORD.—Pictures, Ray Hartley, The Bam Bams, George Hyam, Harmel and Francois, Casca and Florence, Mary Moran.

CARLISLE. — Pictures, Ally Benson, Lucilie Benstead, Keir and Kempton, Estelle Rose, Parsons Family, Francisco, Fred Cooper.

HALIFAX.—Pictures, Rosie Lloyd, Belle and Betty, Five Gratos, Amos Howard, Chas. F. Hill, Annie Walker and Thompson.

HUDDERSFIELD.—Pictures, Alma-Deci, Mario, "Under Suspicion," Five Havannas, West and Tate, Cara Magda, Christy and Willis.

LEICESTER. — Pictures, "Come In, Miss," Revue.

SOUTHAMPTON. — Pictures, Thornton and Delia, The O'Cullens, Fred Lloyd, Le Max, Selkirk's Juveniles, Violet Levy, Steele and Ross, Dave Morris.

WARRINGTON.—Pictures, "All Clear."

MOSS EMPIRES.

BIRMINGHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). —Maisie Dahvers, Royal Merry Four, Alfonzo.

BIRMINGHAM GRAND (rehearsal, 1). —Happy Tom Parker, Arthur Woodville, Betty Washington.

BIRMINGHAM SUMMERHILL PALACE (rehearsal, 12).—Ardren and May, Effie White, Lulas, L. Estrange.

EDINBURGH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).— Waters and Morris, Roxy La Rocca, Ernest Hastings, Rollo and Rega, Daisy Jerome, The Jovers.

FINSBURY PARK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Sam Mayo, Bromley Carter, Jim C. Max, Fyne and Hurley, Caron Troupe.

GATESHEAD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12). —Nixon Grey, Pierce and Roslyn, Madge Velma, Hasey's Komets, The 3 A. Ya Meey Munro and Robbins' Trio.

GLASGOW COLISEUM (rehearsal, 1).— Winifred Ward, The Four Royal Scots, Irene Shamrock, Brinn.

GLASGOW EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). — W. F. Frame, Symphonia, The Doves, Biff Girls, Purcella Bros., &c.

HULL PALACE (rehearsal, 1).—J. H. Wakefield, Vera Wootton, and company as booked.

LEEDS EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Morton and Ashley, Donald and Carson, Rosie and Mons. Dubin, Claude Golden, and company as booked.

LONDON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11).—"Box o' Tricks."

NEWPORT EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1). — Johnson Clark, "The Romany Girl," Madam Walker's Juveniles.

SOUTHSEA KING'S THEATRE (rehearsal, 1.30).—Roya, George Murphy, Bart's Trio, Ford and Urma, W. V. Robinson, Lewis and Maude, E. May and Rey.

STRATFORD EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).— Golda Quartette, Ford and Truly, Sammy Shileds, Belle Davis and her Crackerjacks, Walton and Lester, Tom D. Newell.

SWANSEA EMPIRE (rehearsal, 2). Piccadillians, Margaret Kay, Adam Tomlinson, Holden and Graham, Harry Shirley, and May Ransome

STOLL TOUR.

ARDWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30). —Mabel Mann, Loupe and Ladies, May Erne and "He," Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME. — Pictures and varieties.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME. (rehearsal, 12).—Olga Sydney, Ketos, Alfred Leonard Trio, Jack Birchley, De Cars and "Tomato," Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30). —Fred Land, Campbell and Brady, Romani, Costa and Geo., Roy Mex, Bioscope.

CHISWICK EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).— Gaby Revette, Belle Mora, The Gothams, The Mozelles, The Kavanaghs, Dalmere's Table Circus, Bioscope.

HACKNEY EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).— Those Four Kids, Nellie Wallace, "The Meanest Man on Earth," Ernesto, Grogie, Alfredo, Bioscope.

LEICESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 12).— Tom E. Hood, Zellini, O'Hara Sisters, La Pia, Edna Maude, Bioscope.

LONDON ALHAMBRA.—"The Bing Boys on Broadway."

LONDON COLISEUM (rehearsal, 10).— G. H. Chirgwin, Will Evans in "Laying a Carpet," Florence Smithson, Boganny's Comedians, Rinaldo, Herbert Waring and Co in "The Trap," Leslie Elliott, The Merrills, Evelyn and Clayton, Bioscope.

LONDON OPERA HOUSE. — Pictures and varieties.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 10). — Fields and Doreen, Jen Latona, Those Nondescripts, Bioscope.

NEW MIDDLESEX (rehearsal, 12).— "Look Pleasant."

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Sisters Urma, Geo. Bass, May Hopkins, Rinaldo, Sam Barton, Ruby Roya, Frank Leo, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).—Lola Patey, Bells, Three Zodigies, Vernon Watson, Ivor Vinter, Neil Gow, Bioscope.

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BOSCOMBE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1.30).—"The Girl in the Bath."

BRIGHTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"High Jinks."

GLASGOW ALHAMBRA (rehearsal, 12). —"The Better 'Ole."

LEEDS HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12) — Sydney Black, Rae Duo, "Sugar Baby," pictures.

LIVERPOOL HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—The Whitakers, Pynkie Whyte, Elsie Southgate and Sister, Foster Kershaw, Chas. Austin and company, Mona Vivian, Bart and Bart, pictures.

MANCHESTER PALACE (rehearsal, 11).—"Hotch Potch."

MARGATE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 2.30).—"How Are Yer?"

NEWCASLE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.30).—"Topsy Turvy."

PORTSMOUTH HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Mazus and Mazette, Jack Lane, Horace Mills and Lubino Lane, Flora Cromer, R. G. Knowles, Hiawatha, &c.

SHEFFIELD HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12).—"High Jinks."

SOUTHAMPTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12.45).—Betancourt, Larry Lewis, Hope Charteris and company, Daisy Taylor, "A Double Escape," Lily Long, Manuel Vega, pictures.

SOUTHEND HIPPODROME (rehearsal 1.30).—Bonaudo, Laurie and Elsie Quartette, Bramusas, pictures, Pauline Travis, Liane D'Eve, Josephine La Barte, Joe and Willy.

WOLVERHAMPTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 1).—Napoli, Fulgora, "The Love Chase."

LEON VINT CIRCUIT.

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WEYMOUTH JUBILEE HALL. — Bob Pender's Nippy Nine, Evie Desmond, De Lilo Sisters, Edis and Forbes, Francini and Elsie Ollorns.

YEOVIL PALACE. — Celest, Emmie Joyce.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALDERSHOT HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Ella Shields, Michaeloff Trio, Ko Sen Ichi Troupe, Countess De Ruhardi, Harry Taylor, La Magda, Edie Moriss.

ALDERSHOT, ALFRED BERT'S MILITARY HALLS (rehearsal, 2.30).—The Jeanes, Dale and Clifford, Nan and Dorie, Dan Roy and Isa Ray, Sisters Garnett, Pearl and Rose, Dot Moss, Lillie Leoville, Edie Gray, Ailsa Rooney, Gracie Rogers, Susie Prinella, Lillie Goodwin, Alice Lingarde, The Scott, Alf. Lawrie, Elsie Gow.

ASTON HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 12). —Violet Black and Co., Andy Moran, Tom Gott.

AYR PAVILION (rehearsal, 1).—Kino Juveniles, Morando, Harland and Rollinson, Julien Vedey, Willie Black, Eugene Ray, Leslie Lynn's sketch company, "Family Affairs."

BATH PALACE.—Ching Wu, Mlle. Renee, Violet Grey, Welcome, Ida Long, Nord and Gaine, Bioscope, &c.

COVENTRY HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 1).—Hetty King, The Campbells, Tom Wong Troupe, Adkin, Revill and Syd, Private Evans, Jay Whiddin, Barrett and Clarke.

EDINBURGH PRINGLE'S PALACE.— Owen and Taylor, G. W. Fyvie, Dora Leonard.

EDMONTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 4).— J. C. Carlyle's company, "Back Home in Tennessee."

FELIXSTOWE PLAYHOUSE (rehearsal, 2).—Mackenzie Lee's Joy Concert Party.

FOLKESTONE ELECTRIC THEATRE (rehearsal, 12.45).—Miss Gaye Gordon and pictures.

GLASGOW PAVILION (rehearsal, 11).— Louie Pounds and company in "The Absent-minded Husband," Payne and Hilliard, Edna Lyall, Winston Players, Frank H. Fox, Cull Pitt, Lily Denville.

GOLDER'S GREEN HIPPODROME.— "The Rosary."

ISLINGTON PALACE.—Brothers Lawn, Mavis Pledge, Arty Ash Alf. Sydney, Stacey and Brewer, Bioscope, &c.

KINGSTON EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12.30). —The Poluskis, Lawrance Wright Ensemble, Talbot O'Farrell, the Diving Belles, the Q's, Dora Lyric, Katy Keith.

LONDON, CANNING TOWN IMPERIAL.—P. E. Selbit, thrilling drama, "Love and the Law."

LONDON GRANVILLE (rehearsal, 12).— Ada Maddox and Fred Hawkins' revue, "Say When," Pathé's Gazette.

NORTHAMPTON NEW THEATRE (rehearsal, 12).—Vivian Foster, Charles Lilburn, Haydee's Marionettes, Levard Trio, James Stewart, Dora Dare, Hartley Wonders, Clown Barker.

PENGE EMPIRE (rehearsal, 12).— "Caste." Good Friday, 7 p.m., Band of H.M. 1st Life Guards, conductor George Miller.

PLYMOUTH PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Albert Whelan, Williams and Parker, The Braks, Joy Wattle, Dorothy and Victor, George Lee and Co. in "Podger the Porter," Mabel Fairhurst.

READING PALACE THEATRE (rehearsal, 1).—Ronez Quartette, Henri Merton, Cranby and Adams, Dinnie Sisters, Pathé's Gazette, Walter Wade, Flora Carlton, Selwyn, D'Orsay and Banks.

REGENT THEATRE.—Kirby and Hudson, Frank Powell, Rosie Reys, Jack and Jean, the Tomboys, Giddy and Giddy, G. W Hunter, Etta Howard, the Curruthers.

RICHMOND HIPPODROME.—Lew Lake and company in "The House That Jerry Built," and others.

ROTHERHITHE HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 4).—Radford and Valentine, Kisby the Call Boy, 8 Stella Girls, Datas Johnny Dwyer, Bert Elmore, Doris Pearce Royce and Griffiths, "The Sorrows of Satan."

WIGAN HIPPODROME (rehearsal, 11). —Pattman and his Organ, Dorothy Squires, the Avenue Girls, Gicardo, Horace Barnes, Bobby Peeler, Witt and Butt, &c.

A pleasing presentation was made at the Wisbech Hippodrome recently, the occasion being to show the appreciation of the War Savings Committee to Mrs. H. Bancroft, who had opened the Wisbech "Business Men's Week" by an amount sufficient to buy an aeroplane. Mrs. Bancroft has worked in the music halls and theatres from childhood, and she is now assisting in the general management of the Hippodrome at Wisbech and at Reigate.

Mr. Grimwade, amidst applause, presented Mrs. Bancroft with a gold and enamel brooch in the form of the badge of the R.F.C., in the hope that she would wear it to remind her of a very pleasant event.

SHOWMAN WORLD.

The Show World on Wheels will be soon upon the move—that is to say, that extremely limited portion of it that wartime conditions permit to move. So great has been the response of Showland to the call of arms that there are now only the ineligibles or the disabled and returned soldiers to carry on the business. Dotted up and down the country there are hundreds of showground and portable amusements packed up and waiting till the boys come home. The recent annual meetings of the Showmen's Guild demonstrate the unbreakable optimism of the race, and their determination when peace comes to be ready to do their part in the national life even better than in pre-war times.

Guild Meetings.

Besides the annual meetings in London and Manchester, meetings have been held at Leeds and Newcastle; also a meeting to set up a national branch on an enlarged basis was held at Glasgow recently. It is a matter for congratulation that the Rev. T. Horne, so long and faithfully devoted to the interests of showpeople, has quite recovered from the serious illness that sent him to enforced rest. Mr. Horne is now visiting and addressing the Northern and Scottish Branches of the Guild, and everywhere is meeting with a warm welcome.

In the Great Munition Centres.

It is interesting to notice the up-to-date adaptability of Showmen. The great need for recreation and open-air amusement for the tired out and overstrained war workers has been met as far as possible. Mr John Collins, of Liverpool and Manchester Circuits, has begun a series of carnivals and spring fairs in those populous districts. There are also the usual spring fairs in Lancashire, Cheshire, and North Wales. In the Midlands the Spring and Easter Fair will supply the need of the toilers at the Easter Holidays. Yorkshire, too, has a capital circuit of early fairs, with Leeds and Bradford as the centres.

Presentation to the Guild Chaplain.

An interesting presentation was made at the meeting of the Showmen's Guild in London, when an illuminated address, together with a cheque, was presented to the Rev. T. Horne. The presentation was made by the President (Mr. P. Collins).

The Rev. T. Horne thanked them most heartily for their kind and thoughtful gift. He asked them to carry their memories back to the first time when he defended their families from unfair attacks. He took up the challenge thrown out by their enemies, and pointed out to them that he was one of the little boys whom these people said were dragged up. He claimed then, and he did now, that Showmen were as anxious as any other class to give their children a good education. (Hear, hear.)

Under the auspices of the Paddington Battn. 2/19th County of London Volunteer Regiment a most successful concert was recently held in Porchester Hall, Bayswater. The concert was notable for the large number of first-grade artistes who kindly assisted. It may be mentioned that their presence was due to the enterprise of Mr. A. L. Mocatta (of B. Feldman and Co.), who is a real live wire in Volunteer circles, and who is also on excellent terms with the profession. There was a large audience. Amongst those who so kindly gave their assistance were Mabel Manson, Susie Myers, Felice Lyne, Wish Wynne, Maidee Scott, Sophie Rowlands, Sara Minden, Marjorie Brownlee, Katie Butler, David Evans, Harry Hall, Lloyd Huws, Fred Roma and Rene Haslam, Patterson Parker, Jean Schwiller Trio, George Jefferies, Willie Rouse, S. Harris, and Charles Whittle.

Ern. E. Roma, after being seen by Mr. Stoll at Shepherd's Bush, has been engaged for three Stoll tours, and is also booked with the L.T.V. up to 1924, through Granville's Agency.

Sharing the top of the bill at the Bedford, Camden Town, this week, is the new sketch, "Twisters," written by George Stuart. This sketch is of the crook type, but is played in low comedy style, with Lowe and Loman, who have just finished the Stoll tour, featuring.

The following artistes, we are informed, sailed on the 12th inst. to fulfil engagements with the African Theatres Trust, Limited, booked by the I.V.T.A., Ltd.:—Victor Roberts, Captain Tobin Maunsell, Miss Jose Baptisti.

Jack Mackenzie's company in "The Dairymaid" made a successful start of their spring tour at the Theatre Royal, Bath, last week, and have journeyed on to Barry Dock to amuse the South Wales dockers this week.

Displayed Advertisements inserted at the charge of 6/- per inch single column, 12/- per inch double column.

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FRANK
VAN HOVEN

IT'S silly to talk about people, isn't it, Van? It's silly, and extremely dangerous for both male and female, too. You can say a lot in dressing-rooms, and a judge won't believe.

Van, is it true some men, when in your dressing-room with you alone, will be your friends, and praise you to the skies, and insist you partake of liquor at their expense? And when they shake your hand and almost kiss you, and a moment later, when with others while you're absent, say you're wrong?

No, child, that's not true about men. The only thing I know that would do that is a BAND BOOK CARRIER.

MAR. 25, SHEPHERD'S BUSH. APRIL 1, WOOD GREEN.
APRIL 8, ARDWICK GREEN.
APRIL 15, LONDON COLISEUM. APRIL 22, LONDON COLISEUM.
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PEARL GIRL. Vacant June 10, July 22, 29, Sept. 9, 16. By arrangement with Robert Courtneidge. Twice Nightly. No. 1 Companies.
SPIRIT PAINTINGS. Novelty Illusion. Vacant March 25, April 8, 15.
ALF, BILL & BERT: Trench Scene. Cast: Ben Taylor, Len Kilroy and Donald Brown. Vacant April 8, 15, 22, 29.
CINDERELLA PANTO. Vacant Dec. 23, etc.
ALADDIN PANTO. Xmas 1918 (Touring or Resident).
OH! DOCTOR. Revue. Cast includes:—George Jackley, Ray Holgate. Vacant April 1, 8, 29, May 6, 13, June 10, July 15, 22, 29, Aug. 5, 19.
SEARCH ME. Revue. Featuring J. C. Glass. Vacant April 1, May 6, 13, 20, July 1.
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THEATRICAL GOSSIP.

The Late Sir George Alexander.

The funeral of the late Sir George Alexander will take place to-day (Wednesday), at Chorley Wood, Herts, at 2.30 p.m. The service will be conducted by the Bishop of London and the vicar of Chorley Wood. There will be no performance at the St. James's Theatre to-day.

A memorial service will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Sloane-street, S.W., on Friday next, at twelve o'clock noon. It is particularly desired that all attending should be in their places not later than 11.45. No tickets are required.

Undoubtedly the late Sir George Alexander may be fittingly described as another victim of the war. Of all those stage folk who have worked so hard for charities and at Government work, none can possibly have laboured harder than Sir George. Over and over again, when I have had occasion to be with him, he was dashing about after or even between his rehearsals and performances to this or that charity matinée, meeting, recruiting office, municipal conclave, or some office or work connected with "Dora."

Oftentimes I warned my dear and ever loveable friend that he was sadly overdoing it. He simply smiled that delightful smile of his, and "carried on." I am sure that had the brave fellow pulled up in time he would humanly be with us still.

Missed Masterpieces.

Like certain other managers—Tree especially—Alexander missed several good plays through not remembering those great lines of our greatest dramatist: "Our doubts are traitors, And make us lose the good we oft might win by fearing to attempt."

Thus Tree lost "Kismet," taken up by Asche; Alexander lost the Stephen Phillips-Comyns Carr "Faust," accepted by Tree; and also "A Message from Mars," which was eventually secured by Charles Hawtrey.

"How do you like this play?" said I to Alexander at a "Message from Mars" matinée. "My dear boy," he replied, "I always liked it; but I was idiot enough to refuse it after having it back three times. You see I was afraid of the mystic undercurrent, and so I lost it!"

Kind and Considerate.

The late actor-manager was always extremely considerate to people with whom he came in contact. Not long before he was taken ill his secretary was called away to serve his country. Sir George was well acquainted with a member of "The Era" staff, and was desirous of securing his services as secretary. Although the actor-knight had known this "Era" man since boyhood, he was considerate enough to ring up our editor and ask if he (the editor) would object to negotiations being entered into. That was very kind of him, and the editor had, unfortunately, to tell him that it was impossible to spare "The Era" man.

Sir George was one of the most dignified men who graced the theatrical profession. I recall that in 1909, when the "Wednesday Era" Supplement was launched, a humorist succeeded in having published a joke dealing with the Bodega. Sir George Alexander promptly withdrew his card from the front page of "The Era" as a protest. But after our late editor, Mr. Frank Desprez, had called upon him he restored the advertisement immediately. It will be remembered that Frank Desprez was himself a very dignified person.

A Bristol Tribute.

Bristol shares deeply in the grief into which stageland is plunged (writes my Bristol correspondent) by the death of Sir George Alexander, for he had many and close associations with the metropolis of the West. As a son of Mr. George Sampson, a commercial traveller still remembered by many Bristol folk, young George Alexander received his early education at Dr. Benham's school on St. Michael's Hill before he went to Bath, and later to the High School, Stirling, and after that to London.

Sir George's last visit to Bristol was in "Bella Donna" in September of 1913. He had intended coming to the city last year with Miss Genevieve Ward in "The Aristocrat," and sent an eloquent message of regret to his old friends that indisposition compelled his cancelling the visit. Bristol always regarded him with affection as one of her adopted sons, and evidence of that was shown when the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon Sir George as a distinguished representative actor, and he attended personally at the first congregation of the University at the Colston Hall on Oct. 17, 1912, when his co-recipients included the late Earl Roberts.

A Bertram Birthday.

Arthur Bertram—H.B.'s manager at the Savoy—will have a birthday next Saturday. Doubtless, ardent Shakespeareans—including "H.B."—will exclaim—from "All's Well That Ends Well"—"Be thou blest, Bertram."

Double Piano.

A rather amusing incident occurred on Miss O'Farrell's first appearance in "Cheating Cheaters" at the Strand. She has to play the piano, but the stage manager overlooked the fact that Miss O'Farrell is a pianist, and had another pianist in the wings. The result was that two pianos were going at the same time, and when one of the company in her lines remarked, "I did not know you could play so well," Miss O'Farrell replied, "Oh, yes, I can play two different pianos at the same time," a gag which vastly amused the audience.

Busy Bowdlerisers.

The Play Censors (two) and their Advisory Board have been busy again. Not long ago they "barred" the Rasputin Russian drama (which has, however, just cropped up in cinema circles, or kinema kirkles); a week or two ago they cut out chunks of the new play, "The Knife" (which goes on soon at the Strand); and now they have been knocking out the name of a new American farce-comedy which Grossmith and Laurillard are about to put into active rehearsal—namely, "Twin Beds." And so that piece is to be named "Be Careful, Baby!"

L.C.C-ensors.

The London County Council has also been out blue-pencilling. They have been cutting out the lines and phrases which they deem indelicate, &c., in "Cymbeline" and other Shakespearean pieces selected for performance at the Old "Vic" and elsewhere.

Mr. Compton Ill.

I deeply regret to learn at the moment of going to press that Mr. Edward Compton is seriously ill. Everybody will hope to hear better news ere long concerning this deservedly popular actor-manager.

Martin Harvey's War Work.

A matinée arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Martin Harvey, in aid of the Nation's Fund for Nurses, was given at the Glasgow King's on Friday last, and the house was packed from floor to ceiling. A substantial sum will result from this event. The Red Cross collection, following Mrs. Martin Harvey's appeal at the King's on Saturday, resulted in £75.

Taking a "Hedda."

A revival of "Hedda Gabler" was announced to be given by Mr. Leigh Lovel and Miss Octavia Kenmore at the Court, starting last Monday. At the last moment, however, these two very artistic Ibsenite players—like the man in Herbert Campbell's song—"Had to make other arrangements." These arrangements will presently "sweep into our ken."

Paris Play of the Season.

The theatrical event of the Paris season will be a new play by Henri Bataille, with Réjane in the chief character. It will be produced at the theatre named after the distinguished actress in about a fortnight's time.

Noughty!

In my remarks last week as to Dr. Distin Maddick having been reported to have been offered £60,000 for his beautiful Scala Theatre, I wrote that the Dr. said that the price he would want would be nearer £90,000. But, alas! the printer left a nought out.

"Remnant" on the Road.

It looks as if Mr. Keith Kenneth will find "Remnant" as successful as "Baby Mine," as numbers were unable to obtain seats for the play at the end of last week at Hastings. The versatile Betty Fairfax, who played Rose in "Baby Mine" for so long, is the "Remnant."

Irish Players at the Court.

Mr. Arthur Sinclair has made arrangements to bring his Irish Players from Dublin to the Court Theatre at Easter, the opening date being Monday, April 1. Several plays new to London will figure in the company's repertoire.

Theatre War Bonds.

The directors of the Adelphi, Empire, Gaiety, Palace, and Victoria Palace Theatres, in accordance with the announcement made last week, have invested £11,000 in National War Bonds.

Managers' Annual Meeting.

The annual general meeting of the Theatrical Managers' Association will be held at the offices, 52, Shaftesbury-avenue, to-morrow (Thursday), at 3 p.m.

Bigotry at Blackpool.

Blackpool is in great need of moral reform—at least, so much might be gathered from fragments thrown to the dwellers by the sea on Wednesday evening, at the closing discourse of a series of addresses by the Rev. Fred H. King, of Liverpool, given in the Baptist Tabernacle. The subject was "Christians and the Theatre." "I have little hope," he commenced, "of the habitual theatre-goer. My hope is chiefly with those who have never been inside one."

The theatre, he went on to say, was of the world, and originated in Greece and Rome, and its players were also of the world. The theatre was "the resort of the immoral, the impure, and the unclean, and pandered to the lower passions of men, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes." What, then, I wonder, would this Liverpool divine say to his Baptist brethren who attend theatrical performances in such large numbers, and to the Nonconformist ministers who uphold the drama and its work even in the pulpit?

G and L.'s Other Theatres.

That enterprising theatre-securing firm, Grossmith and Laurillard, tells me that it will take over the Apollo when Bernard Hishin finishes his tenancy there. Also that they will settle for yet another theatre almost by the time this paragraph meets the eye.

"The Prime Minister."

Saturday afternoon, March 30, has been selected for the production at the Royalty of "The Prime Minister." Miss Ethel Irving will be the leading lady, and will be partnered by Mr. C. M. Hallard.

"General Post's" Birthday.

The Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund is to be the happy receiver of the entire takings of the Haymarket Theatre on Thursday afternoon, when "General Post" celebrated its anniversary. This pleasant little comedy is still as fresh and bright as ever, and with the exception of Miss Gertrude Lang, the cast remains practically as it was at the first production.

A Weighty Engagement.

Mr. J. L. Sacks has just engaged Mr. Roy Byford for a fat part in "Going Up" under droll conditions. Byford, whose Falstaff-without-padding weight is 20 stone, was weighed by Mr. Sacks on the day of his engagement, and must "deliver the goods"—that is, his full pounds of flesh—at the opening performance of "Going Up." For every pound he is short of the agreed weight he consents to forfeit £1 from his salary. Under these circumstances I think the Food Controller might issue an extra meat card to the comedian.

Miss Marie Löhr and Y.W.C.A.

On Thursday, the Y.W.C.A.'s model hut was opened in Trafalgar-square, when Miss Marie Löhr made a delightful hostess, displaying the flower-laden tables, cosy chairs, and feeding arrangements. Miss Löhr's chief object was to induce people to drop donations for the Blue Triangle into a miniature hut, which served her as a money-box.

New Comedy for Easter.

Mr. Arthur Aldin will present at the Grand Theatre, Croydon, on Easter Monday next, a new comedy, entitled "The Morals of Vanda," by A. G. Rhode. The cast includes Miss Frances Weatherall, Miss Hazel May, Miss Lillian Tweed, Miss Helen Colville, Mr. Rupert Stutfield, Mr. H. K. Ayliff, Mr. Noel Coward, Mr. Walter Raymond, and Mr. William Stack, and the play will be produced by E. Holman Clark.

Mr. Charles West has undertaken the stage management of "Valentine," together with the principal comedy understudy.

Opera in Liverpool.

Mr. W. W. Kelly reports the continued brilliant success of his opera season at the Liverpool Shakespeare, and also that his big scheme for the institution of a permanent opera undertaking in the Mersey city is making good progress. To-day (Wednesday) Mr. Kelly and Mr. Walter de Frece give a big benefit at the Liverpool Hippodrome in aid of the Sportsmen's Ambulance Fund. "All the stars" will appear.

A "Royal" Favourite.

Patrons of the Bristol Theatre Royal learn with satisfaction of the advances being made in the profession by Miss Vera de Mersden, who was recently a great pantomime favourite at the Bristol "old" theatre in "Little Red Riding Hood." After doing good pantomime work as principal girl to Miss Hetty Gale (another Bristol favourite) as principal boy, Miss de Mersden has been winning many encores at Harrogate, Barnsley, and Manchester.

Change of Chairman.

The Bristol licensing magistrates have just indulged in an important change, for Ald. E. Parsons has been elected as chairman in place of Mr. Cope Proctor, who held the post for many years. Under the latter Bristol made a niche for itself in the theatrical world by refusing to allow "Damaged Goods" to be played there last year.

Amusing the Wounded.

Over a quarter of a million wounded men have been entertained at Birmingham during the past sixteen months in connection with a movement in which the amusement caterers of the city have interested themselves. Theatres, music halls, and cinemas have dispensed hospitality to 55,000 injured soldiers and sailors, and the members of the profession have taken a hand in promoting other recreative facilities for men home from the front. The annual flag day in aid of the funds last Saturday was finely responded to.

"World's Way" Twice Nightly.

Charles Hannan's five-act melodrama "The World's Way," which was originally produced at the Pavilion, Mile End, has been condensed by its author to the limits of twice-nightly requirements, and in its new form, together with a more attractive title, the play will shortly be produced at Hull by Mr. C. Watson Mill.

Miss Aileen D'Orme.

That fascinating little person, Miss Aileen D'Orme, who as Alcolom in "Chu Chin Chow" makes such a hit with her singing, and especially with two songs in particular, "Siesta Time" and "Any Time's Kissing Time," was born in London, but is of Irish and French parentage. After studying singing under the best masters in Paris, Miss D'Orme made an immediate success in leading parts in George Edwardes's musical comedies. Upon her marriage she retired until the outbreak of war, when she reappeared at the Albert Hall, later joining Mr. Oscar Asche's company.

S. B. Joel's Gift to M.T.V.

Through the good offices of Lieut. Haddon Cave, Acting Assistant Adjutant of the Motor Transport Volunteers, and formerly of the musical comedy stage, Mr. S. B. Joel has presented to the M.T.V. a three-ton Austin motor lorry of the best type, at a cost of £800. This lorry is at work each night, and during the week conveys over a thousand leave troops between the northern and southern railway stations of the Metropolis during hours when no public conveyances are running. Mr Joel will also maintain the lorry for the duration of the war, at a cost of about £400 a year.

Independent Activities.

The public that cares for the artistic drama is invited by Mr. J. T. Grein to support two productions which must further the cause of dramatic art in this country. The first will be Oscar Wilde's tragedy, "Salome," with Miss Maud Allan in the title-rôle, to be given on Sunday afternoons, April 7 and 14, at a theatre yet to be announced; and the second, Ibsen's "The Lady of the Sea," or alternatively, another play of quality. The proceeds will go to a war charity. If these performances are successful, Mr. Grein assures me the scope of the Independent Theatre will be still further widened.

Some Pantomimes.

Every professional visitor to Glasgow knows the Old Hampden, and Johnny Crichton, the popular proprietor thereof. It is his proud boast that he has seen every pantomime played at the Royal Princess's Theatre. In December, 1878, the theatre opened (as Her Majesty's) with J. F. McFadyen's "Forty Thieves." In the following December H. Cecil Beryl opened it as the Princess's, and during his time and the long reign of Rich Waldon, which brings us up till to-day, Mr. Crichton has never missed an annual.

Gallant Little Wales Again.

The people of Newport, Mon., writes my correspondent, are proud of the fact that both the author of "The Little Brother" and the actor who plays the leading part are natives of their little town.

Death of the Batonless Conductor.

The musical world has sustained a great loss in the death of M. Wasili Safonoff, at the age of 66. M. Safonoff was a Russian, and first visited England about seven years ago. At one time Director of the Moscow Conservatoire, he achieved fame as a pianist and teacher, although the general public knows him best as the man who conducted without a baton.

Centenary of "Rob Roy."

Some time ago the Lord Chamberlain's Department complained that in their registers, covering a period of nineteen years, "Rob Roy" could not be traced as having been licensed. I pointed out that this drama was produced in 1818, which might possibly account for the supposed omission. Mr. Spencer, tailor and clothier, of Glasgow, has a unique collection of old playbills, &c., among them a small book containing the stage version copy of "Rob Roy" by I. Pocock, which establishes the fact that "Rob Roy" was dramatised the year after the novel was published.

"Rob Roy Macgregor; or, Auld Lang Syne: a musical drama, in three acts, was first performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, on Thursday, March 12, 1818." William Charles Macready was Rob Roy, and made one of his greatest hits in the part. He was 25 at the time.

THE DRUID.

ACTORS' BENEVOLENT FUND.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Sir Squire Bancroft presided at the annual general meeting of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, held yesterday at the St. James's Theatre.

The report for 1917 stated that the sum granted in relief, inclusive of the War Emergency Assistance, amounted to £5,332 13s. 10d. The total sum subscribed was an improvement upon the year 1916, being £1,333 15s. 11d., as against £1,214 9s. 1d.

"The Committee," continues the report, "deeply deplore the untimely death of Sir Herbert Tree, who was a vice-president, a most ardent supporter of the Fund, and who always gave his best in its interests; one of his last generous acts being the devotion of the whole of the profits of his book, 'Nothing Matters,' to the War Emergency Fund, and which has already received from this source the sum of £128. £100 being handed over by the late Sir Herbert Tree and £28 by his executors. To Lady Tree and all the members of his grieved family the Committee tender their most sincere sympathy.

"The Committee's deep sympathy is also tendered to the relatives of the late Mr. W. H. Kendal, whose recent lamented death is most deeply deplored. The great interest which Mr. Kendal evinced in the Fund's work has been further illustrated by his will.

"The continuance of the war obliged the Committee to again abandon the Fund's annual dinner, which for many years has been a large source of income to the Fund. The president's (Sir Charles Wyndham's) special appeal to those who usually contributed to the success of the dinner has assisted in a small measure to meet the deficiency, and the Committee tender their cordial and grateful thanks to all those who generously responded to the appeal.

"The Committee tender their most grateful thanks to Mr. Gerald du Maurier, who, in producing "Pamela" at the Palace Theatre, generously made an arrangement with Mr. Alfred Butt by which the Fund has already received the munificent sum of £500.

THE LATE PRESIDENT.

Before the ordinary business was taken, the chairman said: Ladies and gentlemen, this is a mournful meeting. My task is a painful one, and I ask for your indulgence if I but lamely fulfil it. Forty years have passed since my wife and I first met George Alexander as a youth of nineteen, and for thirty years we have enjoyed his affectionate friendship, and it seems hard that after his long career of management, so honourable and so distinguished, he should leave us in the early autumn of his strenuous life, when he might have hoped for a calm enjoyment of his winter. His death is a great loss to the stage he loved, and he will long be remembered with appreciation and regard. We offer to Lady Alexander, his faithful friend and partner, our deep and heartfelt sympathy, and I feel sure you will not think me out of place if I ask you all to stand and give a moment's thought to the memory of our lost friend.

Mr. C. I. Coltson, the secretary of the Fund, said that some time ago it was arranged that Sir George should take the chair at the annual meeting, and he received from him a note in which Sir George said: "I have made up my mind I will be strong enough to come and spend an hour to preside at the meeting."

The chairman moved and Mr. Sydney Valentine seconded the adoption of the annual report and accounts.

The motion having been carried, Lady Wyndham (Miss Mary Moore) proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for the yeomen service they had rendered. She said that few realised how much time the members of the committee devoted to their work, or how unselfishly and generously it was undertaken. They were content to carry it on as a labour of love.

Mr. Denn's Eadie seconded the motion, which was carried, and acknowledged by Mr Clifton Alderson.

Votes of thanks to the honorary officers were passed and acknowledged.

The chairman, in proposing the re-election of Sir Charles Wyndham as president of the Fund, referred to the services he had rendered it in past years.

Mr. Gerald du Maurier, in seconding, regretted the fact that the business men who who were making the money out of the theatres were not the leading subscribers to the funds of the theatrical societies. He thought that a scheme might be devised whereby the receipts of every first night's performance in the London theatres might be devoted to the Actors' Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Gerald du Maurier and Mr. Martin Harvey were elected vice-presidents and trustees, and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

EAGLES OF ENGLAND.

At the Royal Flying Corps concert which took place at the London Coliseum on Sunday last, Mr. George Baker sang "Eagles of England," by Observer Lieutenant Paul Bewsher, D.S.O., R.N., the music being by Norman O'Neill, who accompanied the singer. The song was written and composed specially for the occasion.

Over the fields of endless blue
The thund'ring squadrons ride,
Borne aloft on the wings of wind,
Like eagles circling wide.
Swift from dawn to dusk they fly;
Swift to fight on frontiers high;
Swift to conquer—swift to die—
In battle for England's pride.

Far from the earth, alone they go,
No comrade face to cheer;
If they should fall, no hand to bless—
No friend their cry to hear.
Alone, if they for help should call;
Alone, they have to suffer all;
Alone, if they should faint or fall;
With none to share their fear.

Hail to the Heroes! Airmen brave
Who scorn the risks of war,
To drive the foe down shell-torn skies,
Where countless engines roar!
Hail to the breed which conquers space,
First in the air and the battle-chase!
Hail! dauntless youth of a dauntless race!
Bring us to peace once more!

Hovenden's British Grease Paints
These paints are made at our Factory, guaranteed pure, colours perfect, and quality better than any foreign make, and at same price. We are also producing
LINING PENCILS & COCOA BUTTER.
These can be obtained at all High-class Hairdressers', Chemists', &c.
A few opinions from popular people.
Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, Grand Theatre, Hull.—"I have been intending for some time to send you a testimonial about your Grease Paints. I have given them a good trial now, and I think I can honestly say that they are superior even to the German, and that, alas! is saying a good deal. I compliment you heartily upon your achievement." Mr. WILL EVANS, Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.—"I thank you for sample of your Grease Paints you sent, and I find it a very excellent preparation. I shall certainly continue to use it." Mr. PHIL RAY.—"Not being fortunate enough to receive a sample of your excellent Grease Paints, I purchased same for myself, and after a lengthy trial I have no hesitation in saying that, from my point of view, it is immeasurably superior to any foreign makes.
HOVENDEN'S
23 THE GREASE PAINT
LONDON

PROPOSED EARLIER CLOSING OF THEATRES.

ACTION BY ALLIED SOCIETIES.

The threatened closing of houses of entertainment one hour and a half earlier than usual has created for theatres and music halls a position more serious, perhaps, than any that has arisen during the war. The measure is initiated by the Board of Trade with a view chiefly of effecting a saving in fuel and labour, and is intended at present to apply to all places of entertainment and restaurants in London and the south of England.

The proposal came with quite dramatic suddenness, and prompt measures were taken to grapple with the situation. The members of the Joint Committee of the Entertainments Industry, which was formed to assist in the National Service scheme, were at once called together, and a meeting was held at the Hotel Windsor on Monday morning.

The meeting was a private one, but it was learned that the feeling of those present was against the proposal. As a result of the gathering, a deputation was appointed to wait upon the Coal Controller.

The deputation was thus constituted:—Mr. Oswald Stoll (chairman of the committee), Mr. Alfred Butt and Mr. J. M. Gatti (representing the West-end Theatres Association), Mr. P. B. Broadhead (Provincial Proprietors' and Managers' of Entertainments Association), Mr. T. B. Davis (Theatrical Managers' Association), Mr. C. Gulliver (Entertainments Protection Association), Mr. W. Johnson (National Association of Theatrical Employees), Mr. A. E. Newbould (chairman of the Cinema Trades Council), Mr. F. W. Goodwin (chairman of the Cinema Exhibitors' Association), Mr. F. Russell (Variety Artistes' Federation), and Mr. J. B. Williams (Musicians' Union).

The deputation was received in the afternoon by Mr. Guy Calthrop, the Coal Controller, at the Board of Trade offices in Whitehall-gardens, the conferences lasting nearly two hours.

The Entertainments Industry Committee met again yesterday afternoon to report the result of the deputation, and after a discussion which lasted two hours and a half another deputation was appointed to wait upon the President of the Board of Trade. This deputation consists of Messrs. Oswald Stoll, Alfred Butt, J. M. Gatti, A. E. Newbould, W. Johnson, and J. B. Williams.

VIEWS OF MANAGERS.

Expressions of opinion with regard to the proposal have been given by various managers.

MR. J. M. GATTI.

In my view I cannot see what it would lead to in saving of coal, and if insisted on must have the most serious consequences to the entertainment industry. Nothing is settled at present. We have had an interview with Mr. Albert Stanley, and he is seeing us again soon.

MR. OSWALD STOLL.

From the point of view of economy, I cannot see that any good will result. Earlier performances will not mean less lighting.

MR. ALFRED BUTT.

The great probability is that the closing of the theatres at such an unreasonable hour will deprive war workers of the means of necessary relaxation, with the result that they will be morally and physically less fitted for their work. Whether a performance lasts from 6.30 to 9.30 or 8 to 11, exactly the same amount of coal is required to generate the electric light. Incidentally, with the approach of the summer months, coal is not likely to be used for the heating of places of amusement.

MR. EDWARD LAURILLARD.

Theatrical managers are the servants of the public, and they must be reasonable in this matter. If the Government thinks this measure is necessary, we shall have to put up with it. The theatre must submit to war necessities like other industries. The public will have their amusements irrespective of the hours of opening and closing.

MR. OSCAR ASCHE.

I don't think the proposal will make much difference to the business of the theatres if the licences to restaurants and hotels are altered accordingly. Of course, it won't affect the coal question in the least, as the theatres will only light up the stage and auditorium earlier.

MR. J. E. VEDRENNE.

We can, I confidently believe, trust the Government to realise that theatres, music-hall's, and cinemas are necessary to the welfare, physical and mental, of the nation, and not to ruin, consequently, by any precipitate step, the only means of amusement left to the people.

MR. GERALD DU MAURIER.

I am one of those who always bow to authority. If those who are in authority think it is right to do this in the national interest, it would be impertinent for me to express an opinion on it.

MR. C. B. COCHRAN.

The suggested alteration will kill the theatre for people who are working hard on Government work, and for a great many men who come up to town on leave. Certainly not 10 per cent. of the people who now go to theatres will find it convenient to go an hour and a half earlier.

MR. ALBERT DE COURVILLE.

Let us do as the French do, start the day an hour earlier, give up the big breakfast, and have an early lunch, and dinner at six in the evening. For this change in the national habit I think the theatre ought to have a concession in the shape of Sunday performances.

Mr. FREDERICK HARRISON is not in the least opposed to the idea of bringing performances in theatres to a close at 9.30, but is of opinion that the authorities should be urged to readjust the hours during which alcoholic drinks can be obtained.

A PROVINCIAL VIEW.

Mrs. Munro, the resident manager of the Bath Theatre, said from the theatre's point of view the proposal was absolutely unworkable. It would mean opening the houses at half-past five, when most people are at work or tea, and the public would not be ready to come to the theatre, and the staff would not be free from their other employment. Mrs. Munro views the proposal as a great injustice to the profession and a poor return for its help in raising funds for war purposes.

Mr. W. S. Pearce, the lessee of the Palace Theatre, Bath, emphasises the impossibility of the proposal. The first house would have to be put so early that the industrial population would not have finished work.

COLLECTING THE TAX.

The Executive Council of the Provincial Entertainments Proprietors' and Managers' Association having enquired into and discussed at length the effect of the cost of collecting the entertainments duties, have come to the conclusion that there exists a strong case for the granting of a commission to proprietors of places of amusement to cover the additional expenditure involved in making the necessary return of the duties to the Government.

A letter was accordingly sent last week to the Chancellor of the Exchequer asking:—For consideration of the question of granting to proprietors of places of amusement a commission upon the money collected sufficient to compensate them for the additional expenditure entailed by their services to the Customs and Excise in this work. It was urged that the loss sustained in collecting the tax through additional accountancy charges, extra clerical labour, stationery, postages, bankers' charges, and other items, was constant and serious, and the members of the Association were so impressed with a sense of the burden they had to sustain that a decision was taken to form a deputation representing the whole of the amusement industry in the British Isles, to lay before the Chancellor figures and facts that it is believed would convince him that there was an overwhelming case for the recognition of their claim for compensation.

An acknowledgment from the Chancellor of the Exchequer was received in due course, containing a promise that the subject of the letter should receive attention. A definite request for a ten per cent. commission for proprietors of places of amusement has now been made in a letter sent to Mr. Bonar Law. The concluding paragraph of the letter thus sums up the position of the managers:—

"Briefly, our case is that independently of the growth of all business expenses owing to a state of war, new charges upon the capital of proprietors of places of amusement have been created by the cost of collecting the Entertainment Duties, and that it is impossible to meet these by increased prices of admission. Inasmuch as the amusement industry has given more gratuitous services in aid of war aims and institutions than any other, it is strongly felt that relief in regard to the cost of collecting the duties should be conceded."

The letter was dated March 15, but up to the present no reply is to hand.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION COUNCIL.

Mr. Sydney Paxton, the hon. secretary, heads the poll of the new council of the Actors' Association for 1918. Following is the complete list of the returns:—

Sydney Paxton	397	Miss Phyllis Broughton	226
Norman McKinnel	375	N. Page	224
Sydney Valentine	369	Miss L. Coleman	215
C. V. France	360	F. J. Arlton	201
Henry Vibart	321	Allan Aynesworth	199
W. G. Fay	319	Donald Calthrop	198
James Carew	289	Miss E. Moore	188
Miss E. Moore	279	S. Livesey	186
Julian Royce	269	Miss G. Hamilton	186
A. H. Steerman	261	Miss L. Sibley	186
Arthur Wontner	248	E. Payne	185
Ernest Hendrie	245	M. Moncrieff	160
Alfred Lugg	240	L. Pawle	160

NOT ELECTED.

Miss J. Kyrle	156	Mrs. Raleigh	91
Miss Leycester	152	H. Oscar	78
C. Douglas	148	E. S. Gofton	74
H. Greville	144	E. R. Cousens	66
E. Kennedy	141	W. Home	60
H. E. Wright	139	Miss L. Simpson	59
John Mortimer	130	A. Cullen	58
D. N Terry	129	Miss E. Hope	35
P. Keitley	126	Miss B. Royale	31
F. B. J. Sharp	124	H. Mansell	14
Miss Jerrold	116		

It is deeply regretted that Mr. Mortimer, who secured 130 votes, has died since the returns were completed.

ON THE ROAD.

PLAYS.

Abbott (Ernest R.).—Mar. 18, Gty., Methil; 25, E., Scarboro'.
A'Dell (Evelyn).—Mar. 18, G., Lancaster; 25, E., Castleford.
Albert Chevalier & Co.—Mar. 18, R., Bury; 25, R., Bath.
Allington Charsley Opera Co.—Mar. 18, G., Accrington; 25, G., Accrington.
Always Welcome.—Mar. 18, R., Merthyr Tydfil; 25, E., Mountain Ash.
Ann, Beauchamp & Beecham.—Mar. 18, R., Lincoln; 25, R., Lincoln.
Annie Laurie.—Mar. 18, P., Gloucester; 25, Sheffield.
Apple of Eden, The.—Mar. 18, R., Wolverhampton.
Arcadians, The.—Mar. 18, G., Southampton.
Arcadians, The (Courtneidge, No. 1).—Mar. 18, Pns., Manchester; 25, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Austin (Mary).—Mar. 18, H., Huddersfield; 25, Pns., Bradford.
Back Home in Tennessee.—Mar. 18, R., Stratford; 25, E., Edmonton.
Because Love Made You Mine.—Mar. 25, O.H., Barrow.
Bella Donna.—Mar. 18, Q., Manchester; 25, O.H., Northampton.
Belle of New York, The.—Mar. 18, H.M., Walsall; 25, H., Cannock (3); 30, O.H., Dudley (7).
Better 'Ole, The.—Mar. 18, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne; 25, Gty., Hastings.
Better 'Ole (A. Co.).—Mar. 18, E., Longton; 25, Pav., Northwich.
Better 'Ole (B. Co.).—Mar. 18, N., Salisbury; 25, G., Bulford.
Better 'Ole (C. Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Dewsbury; 25, Alex., Pontefract.
Betty (George Edwardes).—Mar. 18, R., Plymouth; 25, R., Portsmouth.
Betty (Macdonald & Young).—Mar. 18, Leigh.
Betty at Bay.—Mar. 18, R. Nottingham.
Billeted.—Mar. 18, Gty., Hastings; 25, P.G., Folkestone.
Black Sheep of the Family, The.—Mar. 18, R., Coatbridge; 25, N., Shields.
Buff Boys, The.—Mar. 18, A., Leith; 25, O.H., Dunfermline.
Bonnie Brier Bush, The.—Mar. 18, R., Edinburgh; 25, L., Govan.
Boy, The.—Mar. 18, R., Newcastle.
Broadway Jones.—Mar. 18, L., Newport; 25, R., Merthyr Tydfil.
Broken Trail, The.—Mar. 18, H., Bishop Auckland.
Brown (Mr. and Mrs. Percy).—Mar. 18, E., Perth.
C. Barclay & R. Lister.—Mar. 18, E. Rotherham; 25, E., Rotherham.
Carl Rosa Opera Co., The.—Mar. 18, R., Glasgow; 25, R., Glasgow.
Carminetta.—Mar. 18, R., Birmingham; 25, G., Southampton.
Case of Lady Camber.—Mar. 18, R., Chatham.
Casey (Will) Co.—Mar. 18, M., Glasgow; 25, M., Glasgow.
Charley's Aunt.—Mar. 18, N., Cardiff; 25, R., Birmingham.
Christian, The.—Mar. 18, R., Oldham.
Cinderella (Carlton Frederick's Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Exeter; 25, P., Weston-super-Mare.
Cinema Girl, The.—Mar. 18, H., Margate.
Come Back to Erin.—Mar. 18, G., Halifax; 25, H., Huddersfield.
Cook.—Mar. 18, R., Huddersfield.
Daddy Long-Legs (Gilbert Miller's No. 1 Co.).—Mar. 18, K., Glasgow; 25, L., Edinburgh.
Daddy Long-Legs (Gilbert Miller's No. 2 Co.).—Mar. 18, P.O.W., Grimsby; 25, R., Aldershot.
Daddy's Girl.—Mar. 18, L., Seacombe; 25, R.C., Wigan.
Damaged Goods (North Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Yarmouth.
Damaged Goods (East Co.).—Mar. 25 Marina, Lowestoft.
Damaged Goods (South Co.).—Mar. 18, K., Hammersmith; 25, Wimbledon.
Damaged Goods (West Co.).—Mar. 18, O.H., Harrogate (3), R., York (3); 25, P., Barnsley.
Deliver the Goods.—Mar. 18, P., Bordesley.
Diplomacy.—Mar. 18, Pav., Weymouth; 25, R., Torquay.
Dobell's (W. L.) Rep. Co.—Mar. 18, Col., Queenstown; 25, Col. Queenstown.
Double Event, The.—Mar. 18, O.H., Cheltenham.
D'Oyly Carte Opera Co.—Mar. 18, R., Manchester; 25, R., Manchester.
Duty.—Mar. 18, E., Dublin.
Edmonds (E. Vivian).—Mar. 18, R., Aston.
Eliza Comes to Stay.—Mar. 18, O.H., Coventry.
Emeralds.—Mar. 18, P.O.W., Birmingham.
End of the Trail, The.—Mar. 18, R. (Breck-rd.), Liverpool; 25, R., Leeds.
Fatal Wedding, The.—Mar. 18, R., Leeds.
Fishpingle.—Mar. 18, G., Hull; 25, R., Halifax.
Gay Paree.—Mar. 18, G., Mansfield; 25, M., Manchester.
Gayest of the Gay, The.—Mar. 18, H., Bilston; 25, H., Wednesbury.
General Post.—Mar. 18, R.C., Bedford.
Girl from Ciro's, The (N. Graham and E. Waller's Co.).—Mar. 18, Aldershot.
Girl Mother, The.—Mar. 18, P., Newcastle; 25, R., Jarrow.
Glenville (Matthew H.).—Mar. 18, S., Seacombe; 25, R.C., Wigan.
Grumpy (Horace Hodge's Co.).—Mar. 18, G., Derby; 25, R., Grantham.
Happy Day, The (George Edwardes' Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Guildford; 25, R., Coventry.
Have a Guess!—Mar. 18, H., Batley.
Henry L. Osmond.—Mar. 18, O.H., Burton; 25, H., Salford.
Herbert Shelley.—Mar. 25, R., S. Shields.
Her Favourite Son.—Mar. 18, H., Wednesbury; 25, G., Luton.
Her Forbidden Sacrifice.—Mar. 18, G., Lancaster; 25, R., Castleford.
Her Love Against the World.—Mar. 18, R., Norwich.
High Jinks.—Mar. 18, R., Bournemouth.
Hindle Wakes.—Mar. 18, Gty., Houghton; 25, Tyne, Newcastle.
Hinton (Arthur).—Mar. 18, Coatbridge.
His Good Angel.—Mar. 25, Dalston.
His Last Leave.—Mar. 18, H., Wrexham; 25, N., Bargoed.
His Mother's Rosary.—Mar. 18, R., Bury St. Edmunds.
Home, Sweet Home.—Mar. 18, R., Lancaster.
If Those Lips Could Only Speak.—Mar. 18, R., W. Bromwich.
In the Trenches.—Mar. 18, Chiswick; 25, R., Chatham.
Inside the Lines (Blue Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Bolton; 25, R., Blackburn.
Inside the Lines (Red Co.).—Mar. 18, Tyne, Newcastle; 25, G., Oldham.
Invisible Foe, The.—Mar. 18, O.H., Blackpool.
Irish Players, The.—Mar. 18, E., Dublin.
Jackson, Mepham Rep. Co.—Mar. 18, G., Halifax; 25, H., Huddersfield.
Jeffersons, The.—Mar. 18, R., Birkenhead; 25, N., Oxford.
Jess o' the Caravan.—Mar. 18, Camb., Spennymoor; 25, G., Stockton.
Julyann.—Mar. 25, R.C., Liverpool.
Just a Little Pair of Shoes.—Mar. 18, Eden, Bishop Auckland; 25, H., Batley.
King's Vale Mystery, The.—Mar. 18, K., Farnworth; 25, R., S. Shields.
Knowles (G. Forbes).—Mar. 18, H., Bilston; 25, H., Wednesbury.
La Poupée.—Mar. 18, Chatham; 25, Cnty., Reading.
Land of Promise, The.—Mar. 18, Rty., Chester.
Lass of Dingley Moor.—Mar. 18, Q., Farnworth; 25, R., S. Shields.
Lawrence (Leonard Rep.).—Mar. 18, Brixton.
Leah.—Mar. 22, R., Stanley (1).
Little Bit of Fluff, A (North Co.).—Mar. 18, Rty., Barrow; 25, R., Birkenhead.
Little Goody Two Shoes.—Mar. 18, O.H., Burton; 25, H., Salford.
Little Grey Home in the West.—Mar. 25, R., Wolverhampton.
Little Match Girl, The.—Mar. 18, Alex., Widnes; 25, Olympia, Tredegar.
Little Miss Vanity (Bellamy No. 1 Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Worcester; 25, R., Smethwick.
London Pride (Curzon & Du Maurier's Co.).—Mar. 11, G., Hull; 18, O.H., Middlesbro'; 25, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Love and the Law.—Mar. 18, Pns., Portsmouth; 25, Imp., Canning Town.
Love Chase, The.—Mar. 18, Bradford.
Love Kiss, The.—Mar. 18, R., Leeds.
Love Marriage, A.—Mar. 18, R., Castleford; 25, H., Chesterfield.
Maid of the Midnight Sun, The.—Mar. 18, R., Halifax.
Maid of the Mill, The.—Mar. 18, R., Aston (4).
Maid of the Mountains, The (Macdonald & Young's Co.).—Mar. 18, N., Crewe; 30, G., Llandudno.
Maid of the Mountains, The (North Co.).—Mar. 18, K., Sunderland; 25, O.H., Middlesbro'.
Man Who Stayed at Home (Taylor Platt's Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Colchester; 25, H., Ilford.
Maria Marten.—Mar. 18, H., Huddersfield; 25, Pns., Bradford.
Maude (Winifred).—Mar. 18, Globe, Consett; 25, G., Nottingham.
Meanest Man on Earth, The.—Mar. 18, Exeter; 25, E., Hackney.
Melting Pot, The.—Mar. 18, R., Bath; 25, Brixton.
Merely Mary Ann.—Mar. 22, R., Bath (1).
Micky, V.C., Comes Home, The.—Mar. 18, G., Nottingham; 25, O.H., Wakefield.
Mill Girl's Wedding, A.—Mar. 18, Q., Farnworth; 25, R., S. Shields.
Millward (John S.).—Mar. 18, P., Ramsgate.
Misleading Lady (Stafford and Woodward's Co.).—Mar. 18, P. Pier, Brighton.
Mollusc, The.—Mar. 18, P., Waterford.
Monty's Flapper.—Mar. 18, O.H., Belfast; 25, R., Edinburgh.
Mormon and the Maid.—Mar. 19, R., Consett; 25, G., Nottingham.
Mother Goose (Lena Stanton's Co.).—Mar. 18, N., Wellington.
Mother Goose (Smith's Co.).—Mar. 18, O.H., Dudley.
Mother Hubbard (McKelvie's Co.).—Mar. 18, G., Hereford.
Moths.—Mar. 18, P., Ramsgate.
Mr. Martin Harvey & Co.—Mar. 18, H.M., Aberdeen; 25, H.M., Dundee.
Mrs. Pomeroy's Reputation.—Mar. 18, P.O.W., Birmingham.
Muddler, The.—Mar. 18, W. Pier, Brighton.
My Home in Kentucky.—Mar. 18, R.C., Wigan; 25, M., Bootle.
My Lady Frayle.—Mar. 18, G., Wolverhampton.
My Old Dutch.—Mar. 18, R., Bury; 25, R., Bath.
My Son Sammy.—Mar. 18, Pav., Liverpool.
On! I Say!—Mar. 18, Blackpool.
Old Home, The.—Mar. 18, G., Loncaster (5).
O'Mara Opera Co., The.—Mar. 18, R., Fairkirk.
On His Majesty's Service.—Mar. 18, H., Putney.
One Hour of Life.—Mar. 18, R., Worthing; 25, W. Pier, Brighton.
Osmond (Fred Co.).—Mar. 18, R., W. Bromwich; 25, H.M., Walsall.
Out of Hell.—Mar. 18, P., Weston-super-Mare.
Parted at the Church.—Mar. 18, Stockport; 25, G., Halifax.
Peg o' My Heart (Alfred Butt's Co.).—Mar. 18, O.H., Southport; 25, G., Hull.
Peg o' My Heart (Macdonald & Young).—Mar. 18, H., Stockton; 25, Eden, Bishop Auckland.
Pekin to Paris.—Mar. 18, Llanelly; 25, Aberavon.
Perfect Day, A.—Mar. 18, Vic., Burnley.
Phillips (H. B.) Opera Co.—Mar. 18, S., Liverpool; 25, Shakespeare, Liverpool.
Pitman's Daughters, A.—Mar. 18, R., Castleford; 25, H., Chesterfield.
Pride of the Regiment, The (South Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Woolwich; 25, R., Chatham.
Pride of the Regiment (North).—Mar. 18, H., Preston; 25, R., Middlesbro'.
Private Secretary, The.—Mar. 18, O.H., Leicester; 25, R., Huddersfield.
Pygmalion.—Mar. 18, O.H., Northampton; 25, O.H., Leicester.
Quinneys' (Fredk. Harrison).—Mar. 18, R., Blackburn; 25, L., Sheffield.
Raynor Rep. Co., The.—Mar. 18, R., St. Helens.
Remnant.—Mar. 18, L., Ipswich; 25, W.G., New Brighton.
Ridding (John) Opera Co.—Mar. 18, H., Mexboro'; 25, H., Mexboro'.
Robin Hood (Clarence).—Mar. 18, R., Barnsley.
Roll of Honour, The.—Mar. 18, R., Stanley.
Romance.—Mar. 18, Gty., Manchester; 25, Gty., Manchester.
Rosary, The.—Mar. 18, O.H., Torquay; 25, H., Golder's Green.
Rotters, The (Arthur Gibbons).—Mar. 18, N., Oxford (3); P., Leamington (3); 25, Junc., Manchester.
Royal Divorce, A. (W. W. Kelly's Co.).—Mar. 18, G., Oldham; 25, Rty., Chester.
Scarlet Pimpernel, The.—Mar. 21, R., York (3).
Seven Days' Leave (Red Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Bradford.
Seven Days'-Leave (White Co.).—Mar. 18, H., Rochdale.
Should a Woman Forgive?—Mar. 18, M., Glasgow.
Sinbad (Fred Le Cren's Co.).—Mar. 18, H., Warrington.
Sinbad the Sailor (Linton's Co.).—Mar. 18, Pav., Pontnewynydd; 25, M., Abertillery.
Son of the Sea, A.—Mar. 18, G., W. Hartlepool; 25, G., Falkirk.
Southern Maid, A. (George Edwardes' Co.).—Mar. 18, R.C., Liverpool; 25, R., Newcastle.
Stanley (Horace).—Mar. 18, Stockport.
Stephens (Dot).—Mar. 18, R., Jarrow; 25, R., W. Stanley.
Theodore and Co. (Geo. Dance's Co.).—Mar. 18, H., Kilburn.
Theodore and Co. (Grossmith & Laurillard Co.).—Mar. 18, G., Leeds; 25, R., Bradford.
Third Man, The.—Mar. 18, R., Aston; 25, Pns., Portsmouth.
13th Chair, The.—Mar. 25, R., Nottingham.
Three Musketeers, The (Stafford & Woodward).—Mar. 18, R., Inverness; 25, R., Dundee.
Three Weeks.—Mar. 18, E., Cardiff.
Three Weeks (North Co.).—Mar. 18, Olympia, Liverpool; 25, E., Hartlepool.
Tina.—Mar. 18, Darlington; 25, O.H., Middlesbro'.
To-Night's the Night.—Mar. 18, Art., Woolwich.
Too Much Money.—Mar. 18, L., Edinburgh.
Toto.—Mar. 18, Pns., Bristol; 25, O.H., Harrogate.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.—Mar. 18, P., Durham.
Under Cover (Grossmith & Laurillard's Co.).—Mar. 18, P.G., Folkestone.
Voice in the Dark, The.—Mar. 18, N. Shields; 25, G., W. Hartlepool.
Voice on the 'Phone, The.—Mar. 18, R., Sheffield.
Wallace (G. Carlton).—Mar. 18, R., Wolverhampton; 25, Dalston.
Wanted, a Husband.—Mar. 18, R., Windsor.
Ward (T. Edward).—Mar. 25, O.H., Wakefield.
Watson (F. Marriot).—Mar. 18, N. Shields; 25, G., W. Hartlepool.
What Every Girl Can Do.—Mar. 18, R., W. Bromwich; 25, Alex., Birmingham.
When Our Lads Come Marching Home.—Mar. 18, Pns., Bradford.
Widow's Might, The.—Mar. 18, G., Croydon; 25, R., Brighton.
Wild Heather.—Mar. 18, G., Swansea; 25, Pns., Bristol.
Within the Law.—Mar. 18, H., Golders Green.
Ye Gods.—Mar. 18, Barnsley.
Yellow Ticket, The.—Mar. 18, E., Wakefield; 25, O.H., Wakefield.
Young Minister, The (No. 1 Co.).—Mar. 18, R.C., Warrington.

REVUES.

Airs and Graces.—Mar. 18, G., Birmingham.
All Aboard.—Mar. 18, Q.'s Park H., Manchester; 25, R., Worcester.
All Bluff.—Mar. 18, O.H., Dudley; 25, R., Worcester.
All British.—Mar. 18, Pav., Southport.
All Change Here.—Mar. 18, M., Manchester.
All Clear.—Mar. 25, Warrington.
All Dressed Up.—Mar. 18, E., Penge.
Allotments.—Mar. 18, R.H., Eastbourne.
Au Revoir, Paree.—Mar. 18, G., Brighton; 25, Col., Portsmouth.
Bing Boys Are Here, The.—Mar. 21, Greenock; 28, G., Hull.
Bing Boys Are Here, The (Midland Co.).—Mar. 18, R., Ashton; 25, O.H., Crewe.
Blighty.—Mar. 18, Col., Long Eaton; 25, A., Stourbridge.
Bright and Breezy.—Mar. 18, M., Bootle.
Bubble and Squeak.—Mar. 18, P., Leicester.
Bubbly.—Mar. 18, L., Sheffield; 25, G., Swansea.
Buttercups.—Mar. 18, G., Clapham; 25, H., Woolwich.
Buzz Along!—Mar. 18, Ilkestone.
Chuckles.—Mar. 18, N., Crook; 25, N., Seaham Harbour.
Ciro's Frolics.—Mar. 18, H., Newcastle.
Come In, Miss.—Mar. 18, E., W. Bromwich; 25, Gty., Birmingham.
Crackers.—Mar. 25, H., Stoke-on-Trent.
Don't Tempt Me.—Mar. 18, Merthyr; 25, E., Bristol.
Double or Quits.—Mar. 18, P., Redditch.
Dream Girl, The.—Mar. 18, O.H., Dunfermline; 25, O.H., Kirkcaldy.
Entre Nous.—Mar. 18, E., Kingston; 25, P., Grimsby.
Flying Colours.—Mar. 18, E., Newport; 25, E., Nottingham.
Frills and Drills.—Mar. 18, O., Shoreditch; 25, E., Swindon.
Frills and Fancies.—Mar. 18, A., Barnsley; 25, H., Rotherham.
Gay Paree.—Mar. 18, G., Mansfield.
Hanky-Panky.—Mar. 18, P., Blackpool; 25, R., Sheffield.
Happy Days.—Mar. 18, K., Longsight; 25, H., Darlington.
Heave O (No. 1 Co.).—Mar. 18, H., Norwich; 25 H., Ipswich.
Hello Baby.—Mar. 18, G., Aberavon; 25, R., Leamington.
High Explosives.—Mar. 18, Tiv., Hull.
Hold Tight.—Mar. 18, H., Cannock.
Hotch Potch.—Mar. 18, Birkenhead; 25, E., Sheffield.
Hullo Bubbles!—Mar. 25, A., Stirling.
Hunting Morn.—Mar. 18, Marina, Lowestoft; 25, G., Gravesend.
I'm Sorry.—Mar. 18, H., Wigan; 25, H., Leigh.
Kodak Girl.—Mar. 18, The Metropolitan; 25, Olympia, Shoreditch.
Lads of the Village, The.—Mar. 18, Sunderland; 25, S. Shields.
Look Pleasant.—Mar. 18, H., Boscombe.
Mumming Birds.—Mar. 25, P., Southampton.
Nosey Knows.—Mar. 18, E., Dublin; 25, E., Belfast.
Odds On!—Mar. 18, H., Ashton; 25, P., Hull.
Phew!—Mar. 18, P., Hull; 25, E., Leeds.
Razzle-Dazzle.—Mar. 18, E., Leeds; 25, E., Newcastle.
Rosebuds.—Mar. 18, G., Luton.
Ship Ahoy.—Mar. 18, H., Stoke-on-Trent.
S'Hush.—Mar. 18, H., Bolton.
Smile.—Mar. 25, E., New Cross.
Some Girls.—Mar. 18, Osborne, Manchester; 25, E., Ashton.
Some Treasure.—Mar. 18, P., Doncaster; 25, P., Nelson.
Spades and Diamonds.—Mar. 18, Col., Goole.
Special Edition.—Mar. 18, H., Cheltenham; 25, H., Gloucester.
Sugar Baby, The.—Mar. 18, E., South Shields; 25, H., Leeds.
Strawberries and Cream.—Mar. 18, Col., Portsmouth; 25, G., Brighton.
Three Bites.—Mar. 18, W. Bromwich.
Topsy Turvy.—Mar. 18, P., Manchester.
Touch and Go.—Mar. 18, Pav., Leicester.
Tumble Up!—Mar. 18, H., Stoke; 25, Newark.
Vanity Fair.—Mar. 18, E., Nottingham; 25, E., Liverpool.
Wait a Minute.—Mar. 18, P., Rugeley.
We're All In It!—Mar. 25, Paisley.
Where's the Chicken?—Mar. 18, H., Balham; 25, H., Willesden.
You Never Know!—Mar. 18, Barrow.
You'd Laugh If You Knew.—Mar. 18, Playhouse, Faversham.
Zig-Zag.—Mar. 18, E., Brixton; 25, P., Walthamstow.

CONCERT PARTIES.

A La Mode.—Mar. 18, W.H., Leamington.
Air-Belles, The.—Mar. 25, Anglesey P., Burton-on-Trent.
All Sir Garnets.—Mar. 18, E., Warminster; 25, E., Warminster.
Artist Folk, The.—Mar. 18, P., Warrington; 28, Vic. Pier Pav., Ventnor, I.o.W.
Brilliant Gems, The.—Mar. 18, T.H., Holt; 25, T.H., Sheringham.
Caledonian Quintette, The.—Mar. 18, Inverness; 25, Casino, Aberdeen.
Catlin's Royal Pierrots.—Mar. 18, Montgomery H., Sheffield; 25, Mech. Institute, Bradford.
Dandy Mascots, The.—Mar. 25, H., Stockton.
Frills and Flounces.—Mar. 25, G. Pav., Matlock Bath.
Ideals, The.—Mar. 18, O.H., Bridlington; 25, Montgomery Hall, Sheffield.
Maids and Middies.—Mar. 18, T.H., Sheringham; 25, T.H., Holt.
Mountebanks, The.—Mar. 25, H., Woolwich.
Nightbirds, The.—Mar. 18, Globe, Rockferry; 25, Aquarium, Brighton.
Nobodies, The.—Mar. 18, H., Altrincham.
Passing Events, The.—Mar. 18, E., Galashiels; 25, Louvre, Parkhead, Glasgow.
Pronouns, The.—Mar. 25, Crown, Eccles.
Pynkies, The.—Mar. 25, Sutton.
Qualities, The.—Mar. 18, Mechanics' Hall, Dumfries; 25, Mech. H., Dumfries.
Queers, The.—Mar. 18, E., Warminster; 25, E., Warminster.
Radiums, The.—Mar. 18, E., Wareham.
Royal Scarlet Entertainers.—Mar. 18, Ly., Lymington.
Russets, The.—Mar. 18, Whitley Bay.
Seven Ciros, The.—Mar. 18, P., Stamford.
Shrapnels, The.—Mar. 18, Anglesey P., Burton; 25, P., Norton Malton.
Summits, The.—Mar. 18, G., Banbury; 25, Vic. Pier, Blackpool.
Superbs, Les.—Mar. 25, Kursaal, Whitley Bay.
Ten Tommies, The.—Mar. 18, H., Nottingham.
Vivandiers, Les.—Mar. 18, N., Pontypridd.
Wits, The.—Mar. 18, Crown, Eccles; 25, Lyric, Hull.

DEATH OF MR. GRAHAM WOODS.

It is with great regret that we announce the death, on the 10th inst., of Mr. Graham Woods, a member of the Plymouth Repertory Company. Before joining the Repertory Theatre on its inauguration Mr. Woods had already made a name as an actor, and with his wife (Miss Marie Robson) was part-proprietor of a touring company.

His connection with the Repertory Theatre, of which he was stage manager in 1916, greatly enhanced his reputation as a character actor. Perhaps his greatest successes were the Policeman in "The Pacifists," Price Ridgley in "His House in Order," and Sir George Orrmyed in "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray." Mr. Woods, who was only 44 years old, had been ill for some weeks, and leaves behind him a widow and one son.

Mr. Clarence Sounes has arranged for the third successive year with Mr. Geo. Bryden Phillips to stage two pantomimes at the Empire, Kingston, next Christmas, and also one at Aldershot for the fifth time.

Mr. J. Forbes Knowles and company performed "David Garrick" on Thursday afternoon last at the Canadian Hospital, Liverpool, and were heartily thanked by the chaplain, who arranged the performance. At the Garston Empire this company collected £9 10s. 9d. for the Y.M.C.A. huts.

That delightful play, "Quinneys'," had a flattering reception at the Rochdale Theatre Royal last week. The comedy is played by Mr. Fredk. Harrison's company, Mr. Edwin Irwin as Joe Quinney being especially successful.

"THE ERA" LETTER BOX.

A Stamped addressed Envelope must be enclosed with application for each Letter. No circulars or Parcels admitted to this List. No addition or omission can be made to this List after 12 noon Tuesday. Whilst exercising all necessary care, we do not hold ourselves responsible for any loss sustained in connection with "The Era" Letter Box.

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Booth, Miss Dolly
Bostock, Mr. G.
Bowman, Miss Isa
Bown, Mr. William
Boyne, Mr. Leonard
Brakpool, Mr. G.
Brandon, Mr. W. E.
Brown, Mr. J.
Bruce, Mr. E. G.
Brune, Miss Tittell
Butt, Mr. R.
Carney, Mr. George
Caro, Mr. Tom
Castle, Mr. Bert
Chard, Lieut.
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Close, Miss Ivy
Coleridge, Miss Amy
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Dainey, Mr. F. R.
Dane, Mrs. Cyril
Dark, Mr. Fred
Davies, Mr. C. Fielding
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Deacon, Mr. D.
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Dixie, Miss Mona
Dixon, Miss Flo
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Forde, Miss Florrie
Formby, Mr. George
Fossett, Mr. Harry
Foster, Miss Nan
Fouler, Mr. Levett
Fox, Miss Olive
Franklyn, Mr. W.
Galsworthy, Mr. John
Gardner, Lieut.
Ginnett, Mr. Fred
Ginour, Miss Beryl
Goimbault, Miss Odette
Graham, Mr. B.
Griffiths, Mr. Fred
Hamel, Miss Simone
Harrison, Monsieur Louis
Hill, Mr. Fred
Hillibert, Mr. G. H.
Hoey, Miss Maie
Hope, Miss Fimi
Hyde, Mr. W.
Ireland, Mr. Harry
James, Mr. John
James, Mr. Lewys
Jarvis, Mr. G. O. P.
Jax, Mr. Dono
Jerome, Miss Daisy
Keston, Mr. C. B.
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Leeds, Mr. Max
Leonard, Mr. Herbert
Leverne, Miss Lily
Linacre, Miss Eva
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Liston, Mr. Harry
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MacArthur, Mr. T.
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Mann, Miss Effie
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Martin, Mr. W.
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May, Miss Blanche
Maynard, Mr. Richard
Medley, Mr. C. St. John
Mendoza, Mr. A.
Millman, Miss Julian
Mills, Mr. Jock
Mindel, Mr. James
Moore, Miss Muriel
Nina, La Petite
Northcote, Miss Ethel
O'Brien, Mr. F. W.
Oliphant, Miss Elspeth
O'Toole, Mr. Dave
Paget, Miss Violet
Parisi, Mr. Anthony
Parr, Miss Nellie
Phipp, Mr. W. Scott
Pink, Mr. Wal
Poole, Mrs. Annie
Prior, Master Tom
Rand, Mrs. Dorothy
Ravenswood, Edwin
Ray, Miss Billie
Raymond, Mr. Ray
Rayner, Mr. Harry
Reano, Mr. O. H.
Rome, Mr. Stuart
Ross, Miss Billy
Royce, Mr. Julian
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Thomas, Mrs. B.
Thorne, Mr. Ambrose
Tilbury, Mr. Harry
Tomlin, Miss Blanche
Trail, Mr. Arthur
Tree, Miss Viola
Tresmand, Miss I.
Ulmar, Miss Geraldine
Unett, Miss Margaret
Upton, Mr. W. K.
Vane, Miss Lily
Venetians, The
Vere, Miss Grace
Vie, Miss Florence
Vine, Mr. Douglas
Viner, Mr. Ted
Wade, Standley
Wade, Miss Emmie
Wakefield, Mr. F.
Walker, Miss Beatrice
Walsh, Mr. Shelford
Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Chas.
Weldon, Mr. Harry
Whyte, Mr. Andrew
Williams, Mr. Grafton
Willson, Mr. Arthur
Wingfield, Miss V. D.
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"THE MEN IN POSSESSION."

A Farcical Comedy, in Three Acts, by J. Bernard M'Carthy, Produced at the Empire Theatre, Dublin, on Monday, March 11, 1918.

Mike Clancy .....Arthur Sinclair
Mrs. Clancy .....Kathleen Drago
Violet Mag .....Nan Fitzgerald
Shaun O'Driscoll ....Harry Hutchinson
Pat Cullinane .....J. A. O'Rourke
Thade Flaherty .....Fred A. Jeffs
Batt Kelly .....Sydney J. Morgan
Catherine Clancy .....Nora Desmond

Mr. Arthur Sinclair's latest production, "The Men in Possession," by J. Bernard M'Carthy, is certainly one of the most diverting comedies he has staged. Abounding in clever dialogue, amusing situations, and excellent comedy work, the house fairly rocked with laughter from start to finish.

The opening scene discloses Mike Clancy, a publican, heavily in debt, and his two friends, Shaun O'Driscoll and Pat Cullinane, awaiting the entry of the bailiffs. They meet with a warm reception, "Clancy being at home," and are forced to retire. Shortly afterwards Mike receives a wire from his "American aunt," announcing her arrival in the village. She duly makes her appearance, her trunk being carried in by two men, who prove to be the bailiffs. Mike persuades them to be introduced to the "American aunt" as his two cousins who have come on a short visit. The bailiffs, Thade and Batt, make themselves "at home," and in course of time they agree, by mutual consent, to propose marriage in turn to the "aunt," the best man to win. Mike, hearing of this, confesses to his sister the real identity of his two visitors, and asks her forgiveness. She gives Mike three days in which to rid the house of the pair. Mike confides his troubles to his two friends, Shaun and Pat. Pat disguises himself as a policeman, and calls after closing hours, discovering the bailiffs drinking. He threatens to summon them, but they give him their "writ" for inspection. On the pretext of reading it in better light the "constable" takes it into the kitchen, when a sergeant enters and demands to see their "writ." Thade tries to find the "constable," who has disappeared. The bailiffs endeavour to explain the situation to the "sergeant," but he hustles the pair of them out of the house.

Seldom have Mr. Sinclair and his company worked harder and with more complete success. Arthur Sinclair, in the person of Mike Clancy, simply kept the house convulsed throughout. The bailiffs, played by Fred A. Jeffs and Sydney J. Morgan, were responsible for much of the fun of the piece. Miss Nora Desmond as the "American aunt" both looked and played her part to perfection. Miss Kathleen Drago as Mrs. Clancy played in her usual finished manner; the remaining parts being excellently portrayed by Messrs. Harry Hutchinson, J. A. O'Rourke, and Miss Nan Fitzgerald.

On the conclusion of the run of the pantomime, "Cinderella," at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, Mr. Montague Lane was presented with a very handsome dressing-case by the principal ladies and gentlemen, and a case of gold sleeve-links by the producer, Mr. George M. Slater. Mr. Lane has been re-engaged for the pantomime season 1918-19, and has also been retained by Messrs. MacDonald and Young to stage-manage "The Boy" and play the part of Colonel Bagot

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"ALIENS."

Play, in One Act, by Rose Mackenna, Produced at the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Tuesday, March 12.

Mary Lynch .....Maureen Delany
Fergus Lynch .....Arthur Shields
Kathleen Lynch ..... Irene Kelly
Patrick Kane ..... Louis O'Connor
Con Foley ..... Fred Harford

"Aliens," a new one-act play, by Rose Mackenna, met with a favourable reception here on its first production last Tuesday. Briefly, the story runs as follows:—Fergus Lynch, his mother, and his sister Kathleen live together in a farmhouse on a lone sea coast. Fergus and Kathleen have come to regard themselves as "Aliens," for, having been educated beyond their means, they have no friends in the locality. A marriage has been arranged for Kathleen by her mother, to take place the following day, to one Patrick Kane, a local shopkeeper, and a man of drunken habits. Kathleen is distraught, and wishes herself at the bottom of the sea. She is visited by Kane to make final arrangements for the wedding. News is brought by Con Foley, an old fisherman, that a boat has foundered in the bay. Fergus immediately volunteers his assistance for rescue, but Patrick Kane refuses to go with him. Kathleen, in spite of Kane's threats, steps into the breach and determines to take his place. The three go out, leaving Kane to himself, and shortly afterwards the boat returns without Kathleen, the sea having claimed her as its bride.

The play dragged in parts, and was hardly convincing. The acting alone saved it from being rather crude melodrama. Miss Irene Kelly played with excellent force throughout, whilst Louis O'Connor made an excellent character study of a semi-intoxicated man. Miss Maureen Delany and Messrs. Fred Harford and Arthur Shields made the most of their respective parts.

The Board of Associated Composers, of 38, Bedford-street, Strand, has been opened by Mr. Summers Brown, the composer and lyric writer, for the purpose of bringing to the front songs, instrumental pieces, and other works which would otherwise, from lack of opportunity, languish in obscurity. Revisions of composers' MSS., supplying music to lyrics and vice versa, and all kinds of orchestral arrangements (the last-named under the supervision of their orchestral manager, Mr. Jack Dalton, musical director of the Empress, Brixton), are other features of the board's activities. The general manager is Mr. George E. Dunn.

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THE ERA

ESTABLISHED 1837.

Edited by ALFRED BARNARD.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 1918.

THE EARLY CLOSING PERIL.

THE announcement that the Board of Trade is considering closing all places of entertainment in the South of England at 9.30 every night has descended upon the amusement world like a bolt from the blue. Our theatres, music-halls, and cinemas have, since August, 1914, staggered under the weight of so many deadly blows, dealt in rapid and remorseless succession, that unless they are able to ward off this last threatened thrust, they may well prove to be the victims of a "knock-out." It is imperative that all their forces should be mustered to combat this gratuitous sequel to the Increased Entertainments Tax, not merely in their own interests, but in the interests of the whole nation. When LORD DERBY declared that "the people's amusements must go on," he uttered what we believe to be a profound and unanswerable truth. In wartime, when the energy of practically the whole country is bent by day upon work of national importance, the theatres have become the recreation ground of England. And even if it were true, as MR. GUY CALTHROP, the Coal Controller, appears to suggest, that the compulsory lowering of our curtains at 9.30 would effect a considerable saving in coal and electricity, we should still oppose it on larger grounds of national policy.

But it is not true that the enforcement of the 9.30 order would effect any saving in coal and electricity, as far as our places of entertainment are concerned, *unless it succeeded in crushing them out of existence*. On the contrary, more coal and electricity would be used than ever. The same amount of coal is used inside a theatre at a matinée as at an evening performance, and the effect of earlier opening and earlier closing will simply be this: that instead of, say, 1,500 people going straight to bed after their theatre or music-hall, they will sit up at home using more coal and more electricity, all of which will be a dead loss to the nation. From this point of view it would, indeed, be far more rational if the old closing hour remained in force, and all the dwellers in our cities were compulsorily required to attend the theatres each night—for the net saving which is effected in our theatres by a large number of people enjoying the boon of communal lighting has been proved of considerable dimensions.

That the whole profession will unite in opposing such an ill-conceived plan is already apparent from the opinions which have been expressed. The meeting of the Joint Committee Entertainments Industry, representing proprietors and employees in theatrical, music-hall, and cinema enterprises, evinced, on the authority of MR. OSWALD STOLL, "a feeling strongly against the proposal." And strong objections to the threatened imposition are being raised by managers on all sides. Thus, MR. C. B. COCHRAN points out that "the theatres chiefly appeal to those who are working hard all day, who seek them as a means for obtaining relaxation from their work, and who are tied to certain hours."

MR. OSWALD STOLL declares that in seventeen of the music halls in which he is interested, "there would be a loss of £355,000 in receipts and £151,000 in wages to the various employees if this proposal were to be in force for a year." MR. DE COURVILLE says that "if the proposal is to be carried into effect without driving entertainers out of business altogether, it will mean that the change must reach further than must at first appear." MR. CHARLOT pertinently asks, "What are the many thousands of soldiers to do after 9.30 until bedtime?" And so on *ad infinitum*.

With respect to the invasions of Gothas, it is announced in an official quarter that "the air-raid consideration is subsidiary." This may be gauged from the fact that, as the "Star" points out in a forcible leader of protest, the matter is in the hands of the Coal Controller and not of the Air Minister. But, in any case, if the public consider that there is a risk, the public can quite easily stay away. They know what danger exists, and it is surely for them to decide whether the great game is, in each individual instance, worth the stump-end of the candle.

We shall, of course, return to this matter again. In the meantime, let us warn the Government not to be bustled into hasty and ill considered action. The effects of such an order as the 9.30 order would be tremendous in their ramifications. And if the greatest caution is not exercised in this matter, the *moral* of the whole country may be seriously jeopardised.

AS YOU LIKE IT.

My congratulations to the actress who advertises that she is rehearsing "Out of Hell." It's always well to keep cool at rehearsals.

* * *

Have you seen Will Evans in "Laying a Carpet"? It's one of his best rolls.

* * *

As you might have expected from the title, too, his new sketch, "Queues," has clicked.

* * *

The Actor's Oath: Curse you, Curfew!

* * *

The theatrical season looks like being an early close season.

* * *

Unless we get the order stopped. Now's the time for action! A stitch in time saves nine-thirty!

* * *

The Education Bill is No Act for Children.

* * *

And the only big bill our child players would rather not figure in.

* * *

Come, Mr. Fisher! All work and no Play makes Jack a dull boy.

* * *

Still, I suppose boys won't be boys on the stage in future.

* * *

Grown-ups will have to play them. Fancy Roy Byford as Little Lord Fauntleroy!

* * *

Or Arthur Bourchier as Little Willie!

TOUCHSTONE.

DEATH OF SIR GEORGE ALEXANDER.

INTERVIEW WITH SIR ARTHUR PINERO.

THE loss sustained by the dramatic profession in the death of Sir George Alexander, who passed away at his country residence at Chorley Wood at 12.15 on Saturday morning, is not easily to be estimated, so widespread were his activities on behalf of the calling he loved. He rose practically from the ranks, and his heart was ever with his brother and sister artistes and all things concerning their welfare. As president of the Royal General Theatrical Fund, he worked for seven years to widen the sphere of that invaluable society; as vice-president of the Actors' Benevolent Fund he lent the weight of his great influence to help on the work of providing for the actor and actress who had fallen upon hard times; and as president of the Actors' Association he was the means during his years of office of strengthening the membership of that society and of gaining many concessions for its adherents.

It was through Sir George's good offices, it will be remembered, that actors were exempted from the schedule of restricted occupations, created by the Department of National

[Photo Claude Harris.
THE LATE SIR GEORGE ALEXANDER.

Service, of which he was a leading figure. It was, indeed, from the time of his strenuous work on that body that his serious illness may be dated, for although he acted for several months afterwards in "The Aristocrat" at the St. James's, his health was very indifferent, and he was unable to start out on the tour of that play which he had arranged for last autumn.

During his six years' service as member for St. Pancras on the London County Council, Sir George Alexander never neglected an opportunity of raising his voice in defence of the stage, and to his presence among the elected of London's governing body might be attributed the consideration and fair treatment which the theatre has enjoyed at their hands during the past decade.

"It is by no means easy, almost immediately after the shock of the death of an old, intimate and valued friend," said Sir Arthur Pinero to an "Era" representative, "to express adequately and fittingly one's true sense of the loss. The heart feels more than the tongue can frame.

"There is no doubt that the passing away of Sir George Alexander is a very severe blow to his wide circle of friends, to whom his many good qualities and personal charm had endeared him; it leaves also a big gap in the ranks of the profession, where his marked abilities both as an actor and a manager were recognised and appreciated.

"Of his claims to distinction as an actor I can add little to what has already been said. It is sufficient to know that he won and deserved a foremost place.

"As a manager, he had the power which an enthusiastic and skilful manager always possesses, of arousing and enlisting the enthusiasm and gaining the esteem of those who worked with him. Particularly may this be said of the various gentlemen who served him in the capacity of stage-managers and acting-managers during his career.

"It was unfortunate, in a sense, that Sir George Alexander cherished ambitions of carving out a political as well as a theatrical career. His public work in connection with the London County Council imposed a heavy strain upon him, heavier, there is reason to believe, than his strength could bear. Taken in conjunction with his professional work, it was really a case of burning the candle at both ends—and a bit out of the middle.

"He would not do things by halves. He was conscientiously thorough in everything he undertook. He never spared himself. While playing leading and trying parts, he did not delegate his managerial work to a proxy, but performed it himself. A man of strict and punctilious methods, he wrote all—or, at any rate, most—of his letters with his own hand, rather than incur the risk of giving offence by employing a typewriter and secretary. In fact, in all my long connection with his theatre, I cannot remember ever having received a communication from him which was not a direct, personal one written by himself.

"His death is a very serious loss to the profession, of which he was one of the most signal ornaments. Not only did he gain the affection of all with whom he came in contact; he was ever ready to help, with influence, sympathy and money, in every movement that had for its object the welfare and betterment of the theatre and the profession.

"It should be gratefully recorded of him that he influenced the theatrical movement very largely by his enterprise in supporting wherever possible the English dramatists. Speaking broadly, his policy in this respect might have been described as the English drama for English audiences.

"It is too delicate a matter to speak fully at this moment of the unceasing devotion and the constant helpfulness in all his undertakings shown by Lady Alexander. But perhaps we may be permitted to say even now that surely no man ever had a better and truer helpmate, in the fullest sense of the word, throughout his working life, than my late friend.

"The curtain has been rung down on a great career, a career shortened as well as illuminated by devotion to duty and public-spiritedness, but we shall long remember how well and nobly Alexander played his part. Many will cherish the memory of a true friend linked with associations of a gracious and attractive personality."

George Alexander, who was born at Reading on June 19, 1858, commenced life in the drapery trade, and before making his professional début was for some years an amateur actor. His first engagement was with Mr. W. H. Vernon and Miss Ada Swanborough, who were playing "The Snowball," "A Lesson in Love," and "Cool as a Cucumber" on tour. He made his first appearance in the autumn of 1879 at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham. Then for upwards of two years he played "juvenile lead" with Mr. T. W. Robertson's "Caste" company. He was engaged by Sir Henry Irving for the Lyceum, and played Caleb Deecie in the revival of "Two Roses" on Dec. 26, 1881. He was the Paris in the Lyceum revival of "Romeo and Juliet" on March 8, 1882. At the Opera Comique on March 31, 1883, Mr. Alexander appeared in "Bondage." Joining the Kendals he succeeded to Mr. Dacre's part, Victor Riel, in "Impulse," and appeared in "Young Folks' Ways," produced on Oct. 20, 1883; also in "A Case for Eviction." He took part in Miss Mary Anderson's production of "Comedy and Tragedy" at the Lyceum in 1884, and subsequently reappeared at the St. James's Theatre in "The Ironmaster." In the autumn of that year Mr. Alexander accompanied the Lyceum company on its second trip to America. He appeared as Faust at the Lyceum during 1886, and played in the series of revivals that preceded Sir Henry Irving's visit to America in 1887. In "The Amber Heart," revived on May 23, Mr. Alexander was the Silvio. A provincial tour ensued. In "Macbeth," revived on Dec. 29, Mr. Alexander was the Macduff. In 1889 Mr. Alexander went to the Adelphi, where on Sept. 14 he appeared as the hero, Frank Granville, in "London Day by Day."

On Feb. 1, 1890, Mr. Alexander began his career as a London manager, producing "Dr. Bill" at the Avenue Theatre, and reviving "The Grandsire." He produced "The Struggle for Life" on Sept. 25, playing Paul Asher." In "Sunlight and Shadow," produced on Nov. 1, he appeared as George Addis. With this piece on Jan. 31, 1891, Mr. Alexander entered into the management of the St. James's Theatre, then producing "The Gay Lothario" and playing Sir Harry Lovell. In "The Idler," produced on Feb. 26, 1891, Mr. Alexander played Mark Cross, while subsequent productions included "Lady Windermere's Fan" and "Liberty Hall," 1892; "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray," 1893; "The Masqueraders," 1894; and "The Importance of Being Earnest," 1895. He also played the following parts in other notable productions at the St. James's:—

Rudolf Rassendyl, Prince Rudolf, and Rudolf V in "The Prisoner of Zenda," Jan. 7, 1896; Sir George Lamorant in "The Princess and the Butterfly," March 29, 1897; Sir Harry Milanor in "The Wilderness," April 11, 1901; Giovanni Malatesta in "Paolo and Francesca," March 6, 1902; François Villon in "If I Were King," Aug. 30, 1902; Karl Heinrich in "Old Heidelberg," Nov. 19, 1903; Lord Culvert in "Saturday to Monday," April 14, 1904; Hilary Jesson in "His House in Order," Feb. 1, 1906; John Glayde in "John Glayde's Honour," March 8, 1907; Richard Chelford in "The Thief," Nov. 12, 1907; Thaddeus Mortimore in "The Thunderbolt," May 9, 1908; Edward Thursfield in "The Builder of Bridges," Nov. 11, 1908; Henry Thresk in "The Witness for the Defence," Feb. 1, 1911; Dr. Meyer Isaacson in "Bella Donna," Dec. 9, 1911; Lieut.-Colonel Felt in "The Turning Point," Oct. 1, 1912; John Herrick in "Open Windows," March 11, 1913; Mérital in "The Attack," Jan. 1, 1914; Jeffery Panton in "The Two Virtues," March 5, 1914; Viscount Goring in "An Ideal Husband," May 14, 1914; Michael Trent in "Those Who Sit in Judgment," Sept. 19, 1914; H.I.M. Frederick IV. in "Kings and Queens," Jan. 16, 1915; Sir Richard Gauntlett in "The Panorama of Youth," April 14, 1915. His last production was "The Aristocrat," in 1917. He also made two successful Shakespearean revivals, "As You Like It," Dec. 2, 1896, in which he played Orlando, and "Much Ado About Nothing," Feb. 16, 1898, in which he played Benedick. Sir George made his first appearance on the variety stage at the Palace Theatre, Jan. 27, 1913, when he played Tommy Dixon in "A Social Success."

He had the honour of being commanded to give performances before H.M. the late Queen Victoria, at Balmoral, Sept. 16, 1895, when he played Mr. Owen in "Liberty Hall"; and before H.M. the late King Edward, at Sandringham, Dec. 4, 1908, when he played Edward Thursfield in "The Builder of Bridges." He appeared as Alfred Evelyn in "Money" at the Royal Command performance given at Drury Lane Theatre, June 17, 1911, and was one of the Executive Committee of the Coronation Gala performance, given at His Majesty's Theatre, June 27, 1911.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A "STAR" PILOT.

By CHARLES J. ABUD.

A FEW days ago, a young lady to whom I was introduced, and who had been told that I had "something to do with the theatre," asked me whether I had ever come into personal contact with any of the great stars. I couldn't help smiling inwardly, and though I preserved a grave countenance I succumbed to the temptation of taking her breath away and answered:—

"My dear young lady, just one or two—nothing to speak of. Let me see—I once managed Marie Litton. Oh, yes, and Mrs. Bernard Beere. And then I've been manager for Mary Anderson in my time, and Miss Fortescue, and Mme. Modjeska and Lillian Russell and—did you ever hear of Patti? Well, I managed her. I have also 'run' Sarah Bernhardt—and Rejane—and Jane May. And Salvini. And Coquelin. And Maurel. And Henry Irving. And Beerbohm Tree. And the whole of the Comédie Française company. And——"

But at that point I spared her. If I had gone on to the end of the list we shouldn't have had much time for conversation.

Yes, I have piloted a pretty skyful of stars in their courses, and I should imagine that I have been complimented and objurgated by more great actors and actresses than any man alive. And if you will allow me to recall what I can of them in my own rambling, random, that-reminds-me manner, I shall esteem it a favour. For I love nothing better than a gossip about the great ones of the past.

Not that I am a *laudator temporis acti* at the expense of the present. In my view, there's as good stuff in the theatrical sea as ever came out of it. At the present moment I am managing "Valentine" at the St. James's, and I firmly believe that this comic opera is going to be one of the epoch-makers. There's nothing like sticking to your beliefs in the theatrical world.

That last remark was prompted by a recollection of the faint-heartedness of the backers of some of the most famous musical shows—a faint-heartedness which lost them a fortune. Look at "Pinafore," the second of the Gilbert and Sullivan series, which was staged after "The Sorcerer." It was originally run by a company calling itself the Musical Comedy Syndicate, the chairman of which was Bailey, of Bailey's Hydraulic Water-carts—he used to do a roaring trade with the fire brigades, you may remember. Well, the Musical Comedy Syndicate lacked faith in "Pinafore," and after a hundred performances decided not to go on with it. But luckily for "Pinafore," the agent of that syndicate was D'Oyly Carte—and Carte had faith. And Carte got hold of "Pinafore"—and that was the making of Carte.

Or take "Dorothy." When "Dorothy" had run a hundred nights at the Gaiety Theatre it was decided to take it off. More faint-heartedness. But again there was a man of faith—and judgment—ready to step into the breach; this time Henry J. Leslie, who was the auditor of the theatre. Leslie took it on to the Prince of Wales's on sharing terms with Horace Sedger, and the result was that Leslie built the Lyric out of "Dorothy." Incidentally, I may recall that Dorothy Edwardes—now Mrs. Sherbrooke—who is the present trustee of George Edwardes, was named Dorothy after the play.

I shall never forget my first meeting with George Edwardes. We were boyish acting managers together, and first came into contact in 1881, when I was at the Globe Theatre, managing in front for Lord Kilmorey (who owned both the Globe and the St. James's Theatre), and he was at the Opera Comique, where "Pinafore" was done, looking after the interests of Michael Gunn, who had a share with D'Oyly Carte in the production. These two theatres, the Globe and the Opera Comique, joined each other. I soon got to know George by sight, but did not meet him personally till one night he ran in to me at the Globe, and said:—

"I wish to-goodness you would let me go up on the roof of your theatre!"

Not unnaturally, I immediately wondered whether he had gone mad. "Why on earth?" I asked.

"Well," he told me, "the truth is, Mr. Carte is waiting for me at the box office, and I am supposed to be in the theatre. I want you to let me out of the trapdoor of your theatre so that I may get in at the trapdoor of the Opera Comique—do you understand?"

I understood! It was a daring project—a truly Georgian Edwardian project! But, like most of George Edwardes' startling schemes, it came off! Up he went, across the roof of one theatre to the roof of the other, down again—*et voilà!*

George Edwardes found Carte waiting impatiently for him at the box office.

And George Edwardes, with that *sangfroid* which was one of his most amazing and amusing characteristics, calmly informed Carte that he had just been—counting the gallery!

(To be continued.)

GREEN ROOM PAPERS.

RUTS AND THE ACTOR.

MANY years ago, back in the great days of Betterton, there lived a stage villain of the name of Sandford. "The best villain in the world," Charles II. paradoxically called him; and certainly nature seemed to have created him for this line. His figure was small and bent. His face was lean and gloomy. His arms were long and thin. And the public became so accustomed to seeing him commit rascalities, that they could not imagine a villain except in the shape of Sandford or Sandford except in the shape of a villain.

Once, and once only, was this actor provided with the part of an honest man. But the audience would have none of the innovation. During the first act, they hugely enjoyed what they conceived to be Sandford's admirable simulation of virtue, and awaited with pleasurable anticipation the moment at which he would be unmasked. But act by act, to their growing dismay, this unmasking process was postponed. And when, at the last, the curtain descended and it was discovered that Sandford had remained unshaken in his honesty, the whole audience rose and—hooted.

Such is the reward of the actor, even in our own time, who becomes identified with a certain type of part and who, for once in a way, finds himself able to attempt new departures. There are scores of actors and actresses on the stage to-day who have made such a name for themselves in a certain "line" that managers will not give them a chance of playing anything else. And so accustomed does the public become to seeing them in their own particular type of rôles that if they are cast for a character out of their usual run, it is ten to one the public won't have them at any price, no matter how well they act.

I know of few greater misfortunes which can befall a "pro" than that of getting into a rut.

"Once a slavey, always a slavey, I suppose," an actress sighed to me the other day. "Time was when I thought I could thrill all London as Juliet. Time is when I secretly think so still. But—well, the managers have willed things otherwise, and heigho! it's slaveys, slaveys all the way for me."

Her ambition—Juliet! Her achievement—the comic slavey! A tragical tale, my masters—and a tale doubly tragical because this actress, who is well known in the West End, would, I am convinced, make a really charming daughter of Capulet. But almost the first part she was ever given to play was that of a cockney servant, and she made a hit in it, and that success has dogged her ever since. Because she is such a good slavey, the managers seem to have made up their minds that she would not be a good anything else.

Truly, the manager is an unimaginative being. For this actress has scores of fellow-sufferers. A young actor makes good in the part of a Chinese water-carrier. His engagement at an end, he sets out hunting for another. "My dear boy," says the manager, "there's no one I'd like to have in my company more than you. But unfortunately my next play has nothing in your line. There's not a Chinee in it, not a water-carrier. Not even a Jap or a milkman. So, you see! But, of course, I'll bear you in mind!" Or else, in casting his play, the manager finds himself confronted with the task of finding a man for the part of a bald-headed broker with a mole on the left cheek. And at once he casts about in his mind for some actor whom he has seen on the stage with a bald head, or as a broker, or with a mole on his left cheek!

If only our managers would realise that our actors really can act! Granville Barker realised it, and the result was that, to the amazement of the public, he gave them, among other novelties, Hayden Coffin as the fool in "Twelfth Night"—and Hayden Coffin made the artistic hit of his career. What ordinary manager, again, would have dreamed of casting Norman McKinnell for his present part in "General Post"? Yet Norman McKinnell, being an actor, has astonished all who imagined him to be little more than a species of human rock. Wait till I have a theatre of my own, and I will show you Charlie Lowne as Othello, Pollie Emery as Mrs. Alving, Ellis Jeffreys as the shrew Katherine, Owen Nares as Sir Peter Teazle, and many more miracles whereby it shall be demonstrated that our actors are as versatile as ever they were—if only we will let them be.

An amusing incident, indicative of the point of view of the public on which I have been descanting, occurred during the first night of "Inside the Lines," in which Eille Norwood appears as the hero. Now Eille Norwood in the past has been associated on the stage mainly with villainy; he is one of the best blackmailers who ever trod the boards; and inasmuch as the great point of "Inside the Lines" depends on the mystery which is kept up as to whether the Englishman who pretends to be a German emissary posing as an Englishman is *really* on the side of the Allies or not, the first-night audience was doubly perplexed. In one of the intervals, one of our best-known critics came to me and emphatically announced his conviction that the hero was a villain—"because, you know, they always give Norwood villains to play." But he proved to be wrong for once.

And so I must concede that, in rare instances, the practice which I have been abusing may be turned to good account—when it is not observed!

CRITICUS.

VARIETY GOSSIP.

Sir George Alexander in Variety.

Sir George Alexander made two important ventures into variety. One was at the Palace, in which he played Tommy Dixon in Max Beerbohm's sketch, "A Social Success," in 1913. This afforded him scanty acting opportunities, and it was not until Sir George appeared at the Coliseum, in August, 1916, in that powerful playlet, "Howard and Son," that he scored a big variety success both in town and on tour.

Testimonial to Mrs. Adelaide Stoll

An interesting and unique little function will be held in the Terrace Tea Room at the London Coliseum this morning at 11. After the annual general meeting of the shareholders, the directors of the company will present Mrs. Adelaide Stoll (Mr. Oswald Stoll's mother) with an illuminated testimonial, as a mark of appreciation of Mrs. Stoll's work at the theatre.

That Startling 9.30 Turn.

The Government's reported resolve to close all theatres, cinemas, and music halls at 9.30 is naturally being resented by managers, especially of the variety and cinema kind. It is obvious that such a closing hour would wipe out all the "second houses" of the variety theatres.

Why Not Ten?

While many of us know that it is wise to get the entertainments over as early as is reasonable to allow people to get home, yet surely the big variety houses might be given, say, another half-hour or so for their "second houses"—so necessary to late workers. In my talks with many managers just before going to press, I find that they seem likely to support, say, a 10 o'clock closure, especially for the twice-nightly shows.

Frank Allen.

Last week the news given me of Frank Allen led me to hope that the improvement in his health would allow him back at business at the Moss' Empires headquarters forthwith. Just now, however, I learned, with regret, that Friend Frank has had a relapse and cannot get out yet.

Willie Ward Back.

William Ward, who was so long Press representative at the Coliseum, "joined up" early in the war. He suffered a great deal therein, including being "gassed." Now, however, Willie—just discharged from the Army—is back in "Blighty," and has been speedily re-engaged by Oswald Stoll, who has appointed him Press representative at the Alhambra.

Passing of an Old-time Manager.

Mr. Richard Wake, so many years proprietor and manager of the old Royal Standard Music Hall, Pimlico (now the Victoria Palace), died last week at an octogenarian age. One of the fine old fellow's chief hobbies was to trace out to his friends around his long descent, and I have often heard him assert that he was descended in a straight line from Hereward the Wake.

Dickie Succeeded Richard.

It will be remembered by many haunters of the "halls" that Richard Wake's successor at the aforesaid "Standard" was T. S. Dickie. T. S. D. is, I am happy to say, still going strong. I fancy, however, from what he has hinted to me of late, that T. S. D. is now more concerned financially with theatres than with "halls."

Money-sweepers for Mine-sweepers.

At the Eccentric Club to-night Hon. Sec. "Jack" Harrison will hand over to the club's chief naval officer guest the splendid sum of £3,500, which these ever-charitable Eccentrics drew to their recent Empire matinée in aid of the Mine-sweepers' Fund.

An Agent-Actor, &c.

Charles Danvers, the agent, descended from the famous theatrical family of the same name, is not only booking big stars, he is also acting in "A Cinema Girl," musical comedietta, written by himself (with lyrics by T. Sullivan), on a Variety Theatres Controlling Tour, and running up and down to town. Moreover, he organised the big variety concert given at the Eccentric Club's weekly entertainment to wounded soldiers last Sunday.

Brighton and the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. George Robey has promised to appear at the splendid entertainment Mr. W. H. Boardman is arranging at the Brighton Hippodrome on Sunday, April 7, in aid of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and the Royal Sussex County Hospital. Booking is, I hear, already very heavy, and record takings are anticipated.

Why not Marie Lloyd?

It was surely an oversight that Miss Marie Lloyd's name was not included in the list of speakers at the O.P. Club Recognition Dinner at the Criterion on Sunday. Marie's generosity for any deserving object was proverbial years before the war; she has never been appealed to in vain to appear at charity matinées; and many a brother and sister artiste has cause to be grateful to her for prompt assistance in their hour of need. The Queen of Comediennes, too, is always worth hearing.

Gotha Rudders Auctioned.

At the Royal Flying Corps' concert at the Coliseum on Sunday, Mr. George Robey, in addition to singing a couple of songs, sold by auction the rudders of two Gothas brought down by Lieut. McCudden. The prices realised were £50 and 40 guineas.

Neil Kenyon "No Wool."

Neil Kenyon should have been appearing at the Glasgow Alhambra this week, but an attack of influenza has, I hear, prevented him from travelling north.

Devon Journalists' Appreciation.

Mr. Charles G. Price, the popular manager of the Torquay Pavilion, has been presented with a silver matchbox, suitably inscribed, by the journalists of South Devon, as a mark of their appreciation of his work in connection with a concert recently held in the Pavilion in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the National Union of Journalists, as a result of which over £70 was raised.

The Pynkies C.P.

This well-known concert party is resuming operations on Easter Monday, this making its fourth year of tour. Owng to Mr. Frank Roy having to don khaki last year, the tour was suspended. Furnished with new costumes and setting, and a company including Miss Lilly Lancaster, soubrette and dancer; and Miss Mona Leslie, soprano and monologist, &c., it should have a successful time.

For Soldiers, Sailors, and Nurses.

Mr. Alfred Butt will have given 52 free Sunday concerts for the entertainment of soldiers, sailors, and nurses in uniform at the Victoria Palace on Sunday, April 7. Over 150,000 have been admitted to these concerts at the Victoria Palace, which is, I believe, the only amusement house which has provided the troops with a regular variety programme on the Sabbath, and at which nearly all the stars have appeared from week to week. In appreciation of such a record, Lord French has promised to address the audience on the anniversary.

"Tipperary" and the Tanks.

On the first day of Coventry Tank Week Mr. Harry Williams, the author of "It's a Long Way to Tipperary," who has lost the use of both legs, was wheeled to the Tank in a chair, and invested £1,000. He again visited the Tank on Friday, and the band played "Tipperary" in honour of the occasion. Mr. Williams has received the following letter:—"Coventry's National War Bond Campaign Committee thank Mr. Harry Williams for the help so generously given during the January Campaign and Tank Week, and record with pleasure their keen appreciation of that work, which so materially assisted in making the campaign so huge a success."

Palladium Chelsea Hospital Matinée.

The Queen and Princess Mary were present at the matinée in aid of the New Chelsea Hospital for Women, given at the Palladium on Friday. Among those who contributed to the fine programme were Miss Irene Vanbrugh and Co. in "The Twelve Pound Look," Lorna and Toots Pounds, Little Tich, Miss Maidie Scott, Coram, Miss Mary Law, and Max Darewski. The sum realised by the matinée was over £3,400.

Ragtime Ditties.

Mr. A. Coleman Hicks, manager of the Finsbury Park Empire, tells me that he has read our "Extra Turns" remarks on the prevalence of ragtime ditties with much interest, and that they quite agree with his own views. Mr. Hicks, who is evidently a writer of neat and pointed verse, sends along some amusing lines on the subject of "Ragtime Rubbish," which were published in the "Islington Gazette" recently. Unfortunately, owing to limited space, I am prevented from quoting therefrom.

Two Old Sports.

At Finsbury Park on Monday I saw a really bright and breezy show presented by Chas. Penrose and Billy Whitlock. I understand that this show, which has only been played one other week in town (last December), was written and produced in less than ten days. In the meantime Mr. Penrose has been playing in panto at the Theatre Royal, Birmingham, with Billy Merson, who is also appearing this week at Finsbury Park.

M.E.A.B.A.

Members of the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association visiting Newcastle-on-Tyne are requested particularly to note that the agency at the Empire Theatre bar is closed on Thursday, so that they should, if possible, register their names on the travelling list on Wednesday, or if they cannot do so then, on Fridays at the latest.

A Mechanical Expert.

Mr. J. P. Jones, who came from America to take charge of mechanical responsibilities at Vickers', of Weybridge, and has for some time occupied the position of stage-manager at the Manchester Hippodrome, has now left the latter employment to take a hand, as an expert in mechanical engineering, in the big scheme for raising wrecks round our coasts. His place at the Hippodrome has been taken up by Mr. A. E. Dodson, who stage-managed Mr. John Hart's successful pantomime, "Goody Two Shoes," at the neighbouring Theatre Royal.

A Treat for the "Boys."

For the matinée at the Palace Theatre on Friday in aid of the Tankerton Primary Military Hospital, when "Nothing But the Truth" will be the attraction, the amphitheatre has been purchased by a generous member of the matinée committee for the accommodation of 400 of the "boys" in hospital.

Glasgow Alhambra's New Manager.

Mr. E. W. Crossley Taylor has been appointed by Mr. Alfred Butt manager of the Alhambra, Glasgow. Mr. Taylor, who was for many years with Moss' Empires, Ltd., has recently been invalided out of the Army.

Record Matinée at Leicester Palace.

Mr. Oswald Stoll (the managing director), Mr. Trueman Towers (the acting manager), and the artistes who took part in the Leicester Palace matinée in aid of the funds of the 5th Northern Hospital and the Hospital Supply Depôt are to be congratulated on establishing a record for this palatial hall, the total being £330, against £307, the next highest. The good work in the cause of charity that has been accomplished at this popular house has earned the gratitude of all classes in Leicester.

Frank Van Hoven Without Ice.

At the Victoria Palace last Sunday week the dippy magician sprang a surprise on the audience. Owing to several of his tricks not being available, he just walked on and pattered away, to the delight of all. On Sunday Frank intends to elaborate on this experiment, and it is probable that he will introduce it into his regular show. Frank, who is playing the Hippodrome, Manchester, this week, is evidently a great favourite in this town, as he played Ardwick only three weeks ago, and returns there again next month.

"Mixed Melodies."

This delightful musical scena made such a very favourable impression on its production recently at the Euston that I hear it has been rapidly booked up. After playing Portsmouth and Boscombe this week and next, it will go to the London Coliseum. Miss Marjorie Samuel, who presents the scena, has every reason to be proud of the success of her act, in which she has been materially helped by the delightful work of Miss Hope Charteris and Mr. Patrick Thayer, who, by the way, is responsible for all the musical numbers.

Rinking.

This popular craze of some years ago has been quite revived in Glasgow through Mr. E. H. Bostock re-opening his Scottish Zoo Rink, and great crowds of devotees are joining in the sport.

An Appreciation.

Mr. J. H. Oakden, manager of the King's Theatre and Hippodrome, Dundee, has received the following letter from Rear-Admiral Lord Mark Kerr:—"Please convey to the directors my warmest thanks for their generosity in allotting receipts of two performances on the 14th February to the Y.M.C.A. Hut Fund. I can assure you the men of the fighting forces will thank you daily for having assisted and provided the greatest comfort that they have."

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

The committee of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild are still in need of any saleable articles for their forthcoming bazaar, which takes place at the Savoy Hotel, Strand, on May 14 and 15. Any gifts in money or kind will be much appreciated. The dining-room billiard table presented to the Guild by Miss Ella Shields is on view, by kind permission of Messrs. Thompson's, 163, Tottenham Court-road, W.C. Tickets 1s. each. The Guild, having dressed so many cases lately, are in great need of ladies' and young girls' costumes and boots.

Eddie Morris.

This popular young entertainer, who supports Tom Waters as the Son in the playlet, "Father and Son," first came to this country in 1908, when he appeared in "The College Widow" at the Adelphi. Later he was one of the three in "Three of Us," with Miss Fanny Ward at Terry's Theatre. His last appearance in legitimate here was in 1912, when he played with Frank Lalor in "The Pink Lady." The present act was first produced in Brooklyn about eighteen months ago, and was seen here for the first time in January last year at the Stratford Empire.

Waacs and Wrens.

The day after the appearance in "The Era" of the article by E. Miriam Croxton, entitled "The W.A.A.C. and the Chorus," a number of ladies applied at the Great Marlborough-street Labour Exchange and stated that they were revue chorus ladies who were anxious to join up.

A Small World.

Mr. Manny Epstein, who organises the weekly concerts at the Bristol War Hospitals, at which the programmes are given by the artistes from the Bristol theatres, had an interesting experience at Southmead Hospital recently. A wounded officer touched him on the arm with the query, "Were you ever in South Africa?" Mr. Epstein replied in the affirmative, as for four successive years prior to the war he paid business visits. It transpired that the wounded officer had met him on the Balmoral Castle, and made a cartoon of him then as the secretary of the concert party. The wounded officer in those days was a cartoonist on a leading South African paper.

Artistes Note.

I am given to understand that there are certain artistes who, having read that Mr. Frank Allen has kindly arranged to give benefit performances in aid of the Benevolent Fund at all the Moss Empires—the result from which should be sufficent to meet all expenses—consider that there is no need for them to give any donation. It should be pointed out that this scheme cannot come into force for some time, and meanwhile the money must be found to keep the fund going, as £70 is required every week for the maintenance of "Brinsworth" and to pay the pension list and loans to artistes in distress.

Out of the Limelight.

Miss Louie Tracy, who is starring in "Strawberries and Cream" on tour, had a novel experience recently, when the electric light suddenly fused, the "dapper dandy boy" having to continue playing her part in the dark, and afterwards by candle light. Just at the conclusion of her last song the lights were switched on again, and Miss Tracy tells me that she is undecided whether the song or the sudden flood of light caused the cheering.

Proscenium Lodge.

In our notice of the installation meeting of the Proscenium Lodge, No. 3435, held at Frascati's Restaurant on March 5, we stated that W. Bro. Wolfe S. Lyon, P.A.G., was invested as treasurer. Mr. Lyon writes that he was unable to be present, as, unfortunately, he was confined to his bed with an attack of bronchitis.

Irish—and Proud of That Same.

The Irish Club (so often lent for rehearsals of revues, &c.), at its great St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Concert last Saturday, was the first big club banquet worked on the coupon system. The I.C.'s honoured Hibernian proprietor and manager, namely, that "broth of a bhoy," Sam Geddes, is properly proud of the fact that his distinguished guests included Lord Morris, General Gordon Hewart, the Hon. J. D. Connelly (Agent-General for West Australia), Mr. William Sutherland, Lieut.-Col. Baron Forestier, the Hon. Cecil Weld-Forestier, Sir Alfred and Lady Callaghan, J. W. Pratt, M.P., Mr. Edward Shortt, M.P., Lieut.-Col. W. O. Cavanagh, Lieut.-Col. O'Sullivan Beare, the Rev. J. R. James, M.A., and J. Blake Concannen.

Book Newark.

Newark is the place to go, for Mr. Tom Pacey tells me that every artiste who has been there says it is the best town for food in England. Mr. B. Burke, the Food Controller, looks well after the entertainers' interest, and I hear that in many cases they have departed taking with them their Sunday joint, together with bacon, tea, and sugar.

George Robey and the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. George Robey wishes to acknowledge, through our columns, the splendid manner in which the profession is rallying round him in his capacity as president of the V.A.B.F. Many offers of help have come along, including a generous promise from Mr. J. W. Tate ("That") to subscribe £5 a week to the fund during Mr Robey's year of office.

Mr. Oswald Stoll and Mr. Frank Allen have sent Mr. Robey £100 and £50 respectively, and Miss Ella Shields a War Bond for £5, an excellent way of helping the war and the fund at the same time. The president hopes to fix an early date for a general meeting of the profession, to discuss the work and needs of the V.A.B.F., and in the meantime he will be happy to receive any suggestions or subscriptions on behalf of the good cause.

THE PILGRIM.

MY MUSIC HALL TOUR.

["*Extra Turn's' article is unavoidably held over this week.*—The Editor.]

VARIETY NOTES.

Edie Veno.

When we saw this popular comedienne at Willesden last week we were sorry to learn that she was suffering from a strained throat. Happening to inquire how many songs Miss Veno was singing on her twice-nightly trips, she replied, "Oh, I suppose it must be between 70 and 80." Add to this three or four charity performances, and the number must be somewhere about a hundred, so one cannot wonder at her slight throat trouble. Miss Veno's concluding number, "It's a Long, Long Way from Home and Mother," proves a fine sentimental number, which is quickly taken up by the audience.

Geo. F. Ford in a Sketch.

This popular ventriloquist was playing at a suburban hall recently, and in order to fill a gap by the late arrival of other artistes, considerably lengthened his turn. When he went off he was approached by a sketch artiste to know whether he could deputise for one of his company who was delayed. George readily consented, and after ten minutes' rehearsal went on and played the part with great success.

Cassie Walmer.

This popular singer is back in London this week at Collins's, where she is meeting with her usual gratifying reception.

Fred Curran Indisposed.

After Tuesday evening last week Fred was unable to appear at Hammersmith owing to indisposition, but hoped to resume this week at Lewisham.

Miss Leslie Elliott,

the popular entertainer at the piano, concludes a highly successful provincial tour this week. She will be at the Coliseum on Monday next, and will introduce some new songs.

Harry Taft,

the American comic, had a great time at the Surrey last week. His "battle" gag was taken up very enthusiastically. Harry is repeating his successes at Chatham this week.

Jay Whidden,

who has been on a long provincial tour, returns to town next week, opening on the Syndicate Tour.

May Moore Duprez.

The popular jolly Dutch girl is appearing at the Hippodrome, Richmond, this week.

Irene Paget Booth.

This delightful young vocalist, who is playing Abdullah in the "Forty Thieves" at the Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, is doing remarkably well with her three numbers, which include "The Magic of Your Eyes" and "Let the Great Big World Keep Turning."

Fred Duprez.

Following a very successful week at the Hippodrome, Manchester, Fred is doing very nicely at Brighton. We hear that after playing Bristol and the London Coliseum he may give up variety for a time, and it is just possible he may go out again with "The Passing Show," in which he made a big hit as the Showman.

Katie Hughes.

This popular comedienne is doing remarkably well with Carlton and Whidden's latest success, "You Oughtn't To Do It," at Ardwick Green this week.

Lois Barker and Percy Taling.

This popular duo, in their entertaining act, "The Grumblers," are going stronger than ever. On Thursday evening last week at the Victoria Palace they produced a new number—which, by the way, like all their other numbers, they wrote themselves—entitled "Take a Little Tune." This proved a big success on the first hearing, and has already been secured by the Lawrence Wright Music Co. for publication.

The Hachett Quintette.

At Reading last week we saw the Hachett Quintette, a very talented family of musicians. The act is well presented, and includes fine singing and playing. The quintette conclude their show with a five-part harmony, with comedy, which is exceedingly well done. They were given a hearty reception, and will doubtless be in demand when they open in town.

The Ronez Quartette.

This delightful act is back in town this week at Finsbury Park, and is meeting with a splendid reception.

Ford and Urma,

who are appearing at the Euston this week in their entertaining act, entitled "A Terpsichorian Cocktail," are off to Paris for three weeks' time, and afterwards go to America. They hope to be back in September.

V.A.B.F. MATINÉE AT SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

The matinée organised in aid of the V.A.B.F. and I. at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on Thursday was a great success, every seat in the hall being occupied and paid for, while many people were glad to avail themselves of standing accommodation. Among the audience were a large number of wounded soldiers from the neighbouring hospitals, the seats for whom had all been paid for by variety artistes. The fine programme was contributed to by Bruce Green, Thornley Dodge, Queenie Leighton, Talbot O'Farrell, Ernie Mayne, Albert Whelan, Ina Hill, Jack Pleasants, Mooney and Holbein, Ruth Vincent, Harry Weldon, Lee White and Clay Smith, Charles Coborn, Clarice Mayne and "That," and Beatie and Babs.

Harry Tate endeavoured to be present, and his company were all ready to give "Motoring." Harry was, however, unable to get down in time, and sent a donation of £5 5s. to the fund.

It should be mentioned that Mr. Harry Weldon came up expressly from Brighton, Mr. Bruce Green from Leicester, and Mr. Talbot O'Farrell from Southend.

At the conclusion Mr. Charles Austin, in a capital speech, announced that the fund would benefit to the extent of over £400 as the result of the matinée. He paid a warm tribute to the founder of the home, Mr. Joe Elvin, whom he described as a great comedian and a great gentleman—a sentiment heartily endorsed by the audience.

Mr. Bertram Iles, the popular manager of the Bush Empire, also spoke, and stated that the occasion had been an absolute record in the annals of the house, more money having been taken and more people admitted than ever before.

THE PROFESSION AND THE WAR.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. R. G. KNOWLES.

The immediate reference was to the O.P. Club Recognition Dinner last Sunday. This led, naturally enough, to a chat about the part—or parts—played by the profession in the war. Being cosmopolitan in his outlook on life, as befits "A Modern Columbus," Mr. R. G. Knowles was able to take a somewhat detached view.

"Recognition is a good thing and highly stimulating," he said, "provided it is both merited and properly bestowed. One man's property should not be given to another. The Recognition Dinner was apt. There is, however, a 'but' in the case. More of that presently.

"In the history of the profession, from its very inception, evidently there have been kindly creatures who followed the Biblical precept, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' That precept, it seems, is the motto on their banner to-day. Whenever there is an entertainment—particularly a charitable entertainment—of any sort in any place, they are the first to be called upon for aid. They never fail to respond. They are always ready for the call. Of each and all it might be said:

"He hath a tear for pity, and a hand
"Open as day for melting charity.

"Their war record, so to speak, is one to be proud of. They have given of their men for fighting purposes, many of their women for nursing purposes, much of their time and well-earned leisure for amusement purposes, for the wounded and suffering in particular, but also for soldiers generally. They have been to the Front, too, some of them—right up in the firing-line, giving first-class entertainments there to the grimmest and weirdest and most nerve-trying accompaniment imaginable.

"Besides all this, they have given, and with no niggardly hand, a great deal of financial aid in other directions. So they cannot be looked upon as a grasping profession—bar always the sincere heart grasp of comradeship.

"As, however, there must be an end to all things, including—let us hope—the war," Mr. Knowles continued, "the profession had better, I think, add to their banner, as a sort of sub-title or motto, Charity begins at home.

"It need not stay there all the time—an airing will do it good. But—and this is the 'but' in the case—from now on they should, as a general principle, insist upon a division of the proceeds of every benefit to which they contribute the entire entertainment. There should be an agreement entered into as to the sum to be deducted, and that sum should be equally divided among the different charities connected with the theatrical profession.

"It is often forgotten," Mr. Knowles added, "that these charitable entertainments are a big mental and physical tax, a tremendous extra strain, on the performers. No matter how willing a horse may be, it is possible to overwork it. It would be helpful and stimulating to know that the less fortunate members of the profession were likely to benefit, even in a small degree."

Disclaiming any intent to ventilate a personal grievance, Mr. Knowles contended that recognition and thanks go, not to the performers at these entertainments, but to the promoters.

"Now, philanthropy is a very fine thing," he said. "But there's philanthropy—and philanthropy. The two are so different that they would never be mistaken for members of the same family. We have heard a statesman being defined as a man who gives his life to save his country. There are some philanthropists—so-called—who demand your services to aid a cause in which they are temporarily interested. They give nothing themselves. Their generosity is on a par with that of a man who eats the egg and gives away the shell. These folk are generous in the extreme—absolutely lavish, in fact—when they are spending someone else's money; it is easy to do that. A very practical proof of their disinterestedness would be for them to defray all expenses so that the gross proceeds could go to the charitable object for which the entertainment happens to be given."

Presently the conversation turned on the influence of the war upon the stage.

"It is rather early to express a definite opinion on that point," said Mr. Knowles. "There is so much in the melting-pot just now. The war has inspired singularly few plays, just as it has inspired very few poems. The subject is too vast for condensation at present. Beyond a few melodramas, it has hardly been touched. And these melodramas positively reek with improbabilities, without the art that makes improbabilities seem probable. Life is presented in the wildest, most extravagant forms—a very good entertainment, perhaps, which amuses many and hurts nobody.

"More than ever at the present time men and women need relaxation, relief from the terrific strain and tension of the war—something, in short, to divert their minds and thoughts. A hearty laugh is a wonderful pick-me-up. Problem plays have had their day. Audiences don't want to sit in a theatre and solve—or to try to solve—conundrums. You might as well try to amuse them by working out a few propositions in Euclid.

"We have far more serious, far bigger, problems to solve just now," Mr. Knowles continued in a graver tone. "In America the war has aroused created, I might say—an entirely new spirit. Believe me, America will stick it out till she gains her ends. Her young men are marching towards the rising sun to join the wise men of the East. We Americans are your comrades in the war: why can't we be your companions in peace and friends in the attainment of common ideals? There is only one way to accomplish this, and that is to come before the world and discuss our intentions. There must be no secret treaties. If we intend to be honest, there is no need to conceal the fact.

"America is whole-heartedly with the Allies in this war. Even when the President was pursuing a policy of neutrality, the heart of the people was with the Allies. What about the German-Americans? Well, I think the great majority of them were, too. Let me tell you a little story. About two years ago, in the smoking-room of a Chicago club, some young Americans were discussing the war with some Englishmen. 'We're neutral,' said one of the former. 'I am absolutely neutral. I don't care a darned cent which of you licks the Kaiser.' Now, the man who said that was a German-American. You see the point?"

"WOMAN WINS."

A Dramatic Episode, in One Act, by Robert Desmond, Produced at the Hippodrome Theatre, Gateshead, on March 18.

Dick Forester .....Chas. Freeman
Angela Morton ..... Ivy Carleon

Angela Morton, a girl of twenty-five, has given up her past mode of life and is now living in a purer and more healthy environment. After much perseverance she has succeeded in obtaining a position in a millinery establishment. She understands the world and sees through the mockery of conventional morality; as for men she has no illusions about them.

Dick Forester, a bachelor, is a man of loose habits. He obtains an introduction to Angela through his friend, Jack Meadows, who delights to boast of his conquests over women. Forester, being very partial to Angela (not knowing of her past), but having no good intentions, determines to entice her to his rooms by means of a telegram.

Angela arrives at his apartments to find that Forester had nothing important to tell her as the telegram suggested. In spite of his appeals to her to stay, she persists in her demands to leave his rooms, but Forester refuses to unlock the door. As she will not submit to persuasion, Forester dwells upon her relations with Jack Meadows, and endeavours to intimidate her by threats of exposure. His taunts and insults raise the devil in Angela, and in a rage she throws wine in his face and overturns the table. Horrified and trembling, Forester begs of her to go, but now that she has mastered the coward, she demands twenty pounds, which he meekly gives her.

The rôle of Angela Morton is admirably delineated by Miss Ivy Carleon, whilst a praiseworthy impersonation of Dick Forester is furnished by Mr. Charles Freeman.

ROYAL FLYING CORPS CONCERT.

The London Coliseum was "packed out" on Sunday afternoon on the occasion of a concert organised to provide funds for the equipment of a seaside convalescent home in connection with the Royal Flying Corps hospitals at Eaton-square and Bryanston-square, W. The programme was a splendid one. Mr. Lou Edwards introduced his song ("I'm Tired") and eccentric dance from "The Bing Boys on Broadway," whilst Miss Margaret Cooper was as delightful as ever, and Mr. Murray Davey's glorious voice was admirably suited to Harold Samuel's "Jogging Along the Highway." From the Gaiety came Mlle. Regine Flory and Mr. Felix Ford with "The Kissing Duet," from "The Beauty Spot." Mr. George Baker, the well-known baritone, had one of the two novelties of the afternoon in "Eagles of England."

Contributions to the programme were also made by Mlle. Kyasht and M. Leo Strockoff (violinist); Miss Bessie Clifford; Mr. Albert Whelan; Melsa, violinist; Coram (with "Jerry"); Lois Barker and Percy Tarling, with their entertainment at the piano; Miss Flora Woodman, the brilliant young soprano; and George Robey, who sang both his songs from the present "Bing Boy" show, to the great delight of all.

The second novelty of the programme was "a conversation," entitled "Secret Service," by Mr. A. A. Milne, of "Punch." There are only two characters, "He" (of the R.F.C.) and "She," who are sitting out a dance together. The man is very much in love with the girl, although he has only really made her acquaintance at the dance, and talks to her of a "special mission" in which he is engaged. The object of the mission, it eventually appears, was merely to make the lady's acquaintance. The little sketch is very amusing, and was perfectly played by Miss Renée Kelly and Mr. Donald Calthrop.

An Air-Raid Experience.

In a recent air raid bombs were dropped scarcely a hundred yards distant from the local Empire, which, fortunately, was only slightly damaged. The manager requested the audience to remove from their seats to those at the back under the circle and balcony clear of the main roof (which is a sliding roof), but not under any consideration to leave the building, the whole of the company remaining.

The orchestra kept up the strains of Dave Bryant's music, while Dave himself worked like a Trojan and sang his numbers practically unconcerned. The band then struck up with "Texas Way" and other chorus numbers until the stage was occupied by the Four Swifts, and so on till the close of the performance. The audience, which was well represented by members of the naval and military forces, joined in heartily. Three of the former branch of the service created much merriment by their robust enthusiasm. Other artistes on the bill included the Sam and Fanny Trio, Finlay Dunn, Robb Wilton and his wife, and Dnig Sen Brothers, each doing their usual performance in style worthy of great praise. Miss Emily Hayes was unfortunately unable to appear, but was fully recovered for the performances during the remainder of the week.

The stage manager and his staff carried on splendidly. The stage manager's wife is also cashier at the theatre, and the couple were greatly relieved to find their baby boy quite safe, although their house was badly damaged, the occupants next door being some of the unfortunate victims. The manager writes: "Great credit is due to the artistes and the whole of the staff who assisted me during the terrible ordeal."

"Little Miss Vanity," a novel revue in six scenes, was produced at the Pavilion, Leicester, on March 4, and attracted record attendances. It is written by O. W. Bellamy-Brettoner, with lyrics by Herbert Rule and music by Burton Manning and Ernest Holmes.

Lawrence Bros.,

who made a big hit at Reading last week, are presenting their new singing, dancing, and patter act at the Hippodrome, Rotherhithe, this week.

"PRIDE OF THE REGIMENT."

Drama, in Seven Scenes, Written by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley, Produced for the First Time in London at the Elephant and Castle Theatre on Monday, March 11.

Bobbie Hamilton .....Victor Lorraine
Ralph Connor .....Harold B. Lewis
Gerald Armstrong .....Tudor Williams
Farmer Hamilton ....Harry Cullenford
Bill Smith .....Louis Nanton
Joe Rawlings .....Fred Johnson
Mrs. Hamilton .....Lallah Price
Popsy Harrington .....Adeline Raby
Hilda Trelawny ..Constance Glenalbyn
Betty St. Clair .....Pauline Nanton

Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's new play first saw the light at her own popular theatre, the Royal, Wolverhampton, on Monday, Dec. 10, 1917, and proved an immediate success, two companies now touring "The Pride of the Regiment." It is gratifying to state this verdict was endorsed by the London public, as was chronicled in last week's "Era."

Bobbie Hamilton wins the V.C. for heroism displayed in picking up and throwing away a bomb. On returning home he finds himself immensely popular, and, pressed by silly adulation, succumbs to the attractiveness of a society beauty, Hilda Trelawny, who "worships these gallant fellows." At the same time, seeing his infatuation, his sweetheart, Betty St. Clair, in a spirit of self-sacrifice, releases him from his engagement that he may marry Hilda. Tiring of her husband, especially after he comes back the second time a scarred and shattered man, Hilda seeks consolation with an old flame, Ralph Connor. Betty, suspicious, becomes Mrs. Hamilton's maid in order that she may free Bobbie; and the guilty pair, on discovering her identity, charge her with being his mistress. This is disproved, with the result that Hilda goes off unblushingly with Ralph, leaving Bobbie Hamilton the opportunity to get a divorce, and for the true-hearted Betty to eventually marry the "Pride of the Regiment."

Mr. Victor Lorraine was most effective as Bobbie Hamilton, and a clever piece of acting was that from Mr. Louis Nanton (the acting manager for Mr. Frank Liston, who presented the play) as the sharp and jovial Bill Smith. Mr. Harold B. Lewis was a smooth and calculating Ralph Connor. A capital sketch of the rough-and-ready Farmer Hamilton came from Harry Cullenford, and his unhappy wife was carefully portrayed by Miss Lallah Price. Mr. Tudor Williams was admirable as the self-sacrificing Gerald Armstrong. Miss Pauline Nanton made an engaging and pathetic Betty St. Clair, and Miss Constance Glenalbyn (Mr. Frank Liston's general manager) delineated with great skill the cold and callous society beauty, Hilda Trelawny. Miss Adeline Raby's lively repartee and winsome ways delighted the house as Popsy Harrington, and Mr. Fred Johnson as Joe Rawlings helped the actress materially in sustaining the fun.

ÆOLIAN HALL.

Miss Evelyn Arden, who gave a successful recital at Æolian Hall last Friday, is already known on the concert platform and operatic stage. But she has not previously appeared to so much advantage as on this occasion. She now uses with much art a powerful mezzo-contralto voice of rich quality and extensive compass. In a group of French songs, by Baton, Debussy, and Duparc, her management of a clear, full-toned mezza voice was admirable, and her treatment of Gluck's "Divinités du Styx," and the air from Gounod's "Reine de Saba" showed considerable dramatic feeling. An exacting programme included interesting English songs by Mallinson, Cyril Scott, Bax, Ireland, and Goossens. Mr. Emile Doehard contributed violoncello pieces, and Mr. S. Liddle was the accompanist.

ITALIAN PLAYERS' MATINEE.

Geralamo Rovetta's "Romanticismo," dealing with the Italian revolution of the fifties and sixties (produced, in Italian, at the Comedy Theatre on the 12th inst, at the first of two matinées in aid of the funds of the London Italian Hospital and the Queen's Hospital, Frognal), is perhaps far from being a great play. Plays with a purpose seldom are. Its melodramatic chief ingredients—a meeting of conspirators, a police surprise, the betrayal of the leader by his wife's repulsed lover—are ordinary and conventional. But it does arrive at what it sets out to do—to revive in Italians of to-day the fire of patriotism kindled by Mazzini 60 years ago in the hearts of the re-makers of Italy—as the emotional response from Tuesday's audience (mostly formed of the author's compatriots) testified.

The acting was remarkably good, by a mixed cast of professionals and amateurs. The best work was done by Sig. F. Ferraro, whose reciting of the oath of fidelity to "Young Italy" in the part of Conte Vitaliano Lamberti was a fine piece of elocution, and was received with fervent applause; by Sig. P. Ramella, as the irrepressible Marchese Giacominó D'Alfo; by Signora C. Simonetti, as Lamberti's mother, representing those who lived in amity with their Austrian conquerors, and in whom national spirit was so dulled that they could lightly dismiss the patriotic movement as mere "Romanticism"; by Signora Emma Meunier, sympathetic as the Contessa Anna; and by Sig. P. Brusa, as the Austrian Conte di Rienz. Sig. E. Aletto, as the Polish betrayer, Cesky, and Signora A. Cagna, as the wife of the martyr, Ansperti, also deserve mention.

The play was produced by Cavaliere Ugo Catani.

THE PROGRESSIVE PRUDENTIAL.

The popularity of the Prudential Assurance Co., which numbers among its clients many members of the theatrical and music hall profession, is proved by the fact that during these hard times it is advancing both financially and in the number of its supporters. From the report presented at the sixty-ninth annual meeting on March 7 it is seen that in the ordinary branch the number of policies issued during the year was 56,502, assuring the sum of £6,951,269, and producing a new annual premium income of £567,472. The premiums received were £5,496,205, an increase of £265,035 over the year 1916. The number of policies including annuities in force at the end of the year was 934,075.

The industrial branch is still more progressive, the premiums received during the year being £9,376,858, an increase of £479,135. The total number of policies in force in this branch at the end of the year was 21,730,458. Under the sickness insurance tables in the general branch the premiums received during the year were £6,721, and £3,744 was paid in sickness claims. Sinking fund policies have been issued assuring a capital sum of £134,850, and producing an annual income of £2,663.

The assets of the company, in all branches, are £107,283,321, which, after the deduction of the balance of £3,487,500 owing in respect of the advance from the company's banker's for purchase of War Loan, shows an increase of £4,672,125 over 1916.

By kind permission of the management of the Palace Theatre, Watford, the Watford Society of East Anglians were enabled on Wednesday last to make a collection on behalf of the Herts Prisoners of War Fund; £10 11s. 9d. being the gratifying result.

O.P. RECOGNITION DINNER.

There was a large gathering of members of the O.P. Club and their guests at a "recognition dinner," given at the Criterion Restaurant on Sunday with the object of expressing gratitude to the theatrical and music hall profession for the work they have done in entertaining soldiers at the Front and in hospitals and in raising money for the relief of sufferers by the war. Lord Lambourne presided, and those present included:—

The Lord Mayor of York, Miss Lena Ashwell, Dame May Whitty, Miss Eva Moore, Miss Marie Lloyd, Sir Thomas Dewar, Mr. Ben Webster, Mr. Hayden Coffin, Mr. Harry Tate, Mr. R. G. Knowles, Mr. Charles Coborn, Sir Alfred and Lady Robbins, and Mr. Carl Hentschel.

The chairman read a letter from the Earl of Derby, who was unable to preside, as he was out of London. He wrote:—

"I should like to have borne testimony to those in the theatrical profession who have done such extraordinarily good service in cheering our men, whether they be in health or in sickness. While many people out of their wealth have given large sums of money, the theatrical profession have given something which is even more valuable, and that is devoted service, which has brought, besides large sums of money for charity, a cheerfulness to our men which has made them, at all events for the moment, forget the dangers which they have to face."

The chairman, in proposing the toast of "Our Guests," spoke of the trouble and the amount of time which the members of the theatrical and music hall professions willingly devoted to amusing our soldiers.

Miss Lena Ashwell, in responding to the toast, said the reply to anyone who had said before the war that the theatrical profession could work in harmony with the Y.M.C.A. would have been, "You're a ——"; but that extraordinary thing had been achieved. The profession, through that magnificent organisation, had been able to give a great number of entertainments to the soldiers on many fronts. They had now five parties going out every month, and they had sixteen permanent base parties. They had four repertory companies playing all the time, and Miss Eva Moore had just consented to go to Paris to play in repertory to the soldiers. One of the results of their work, she hoped, would be the creation of a serious desire for the British drama, and a greater appreciation for the best in British dramatic art.

Mr. George Robey, who also responded, said all they did for the soldiers was a labour of love. There were many artistes who had appeared in every entertainment he organised, and who insisted on appearing in every one he might organise. He was after money in giving these entertainments, and when it came to money he was not an artist, he was a desperado. (Laughter.) On one Sunday afternoon he had been able to rake in £4,000, and for an entertainment which he was at present organising to take place at the London Coliseum he had, though no public notices of it had yet appeared, already sold twelve boxes at a hundred guineas each.

In the absence of Miss Violet Loraine, through illness, Mr. McDonald Rendle proposed the O.P. Club in one of his amusing speeches, and Sir Thomas B. Dewar (the president) responded.

The Ladies' Orchestra played during dinner, and an excellent programme of music was carried out by Misses Rene Maxwell, Dorothy Shale, Lilian Stiles-Allan, Messrs. Philip Ritte, Ernest Taylor, Sinclair Mantell, and Charles Coborn.

"THE LOVER FROM JAPAN."

Last Thursday's production, at the Duke's Hall (under the direction of Mr. Cairns James and Mr. Henry Beauchamp), of a new three-act light opera, "The Lover from Japan," proved that, in Mr. Arthur Sandford, the Royal Academy of Music possesses a student composer who can write tuneful, gay music, that is light without being trivial. His scoring for orchestre is deft, and shows that he is learning the use of the colours of his palette. The preludes to Acts II. and III. had some quite charming moments; and there was a good deal of originality in a clever concerted number, "Lemon Squash," with a taking "sip, sip" refrain. As the heroine, Nina, an art student, who wins love instead of a more material prize, Miss Renè Blackie, a soprano of pleasing quality, whose chief fault was indistinct enunciation, shared one of the most graceful numbers, "Dreames of Dreams," with Mr. Lionel Walter, who sang tastefully as the lover, Yarishuma. A vivacious "Kissing Duet," with a fresh and unexpected finish, was well sung by Miss Marguerite Lister, excellent in the soubrette part of Suzette, and Mr. Reginald Good. Mr. Sidney Ellis, who uses a pleasant baritone well; Miss Eleanor Street, as the Quartier Latin student Loulou; Miss Margaret Fletcher, a light soprano, who sang an ambitious coloratura number effectively; Mr. Earl Norman, as a droll Town Crier; and Miss Winsome Williams, a promising low comedienne, all did very well indeed. The Misses Mary Anderson-Smith, Violet Drummond, and Miss Bessie Kerr, to whom was allotted a well-written trio, Miss Jessie Russell, and Miss Christabel Edwards were also worthy of mention. There was bright-toned singing by the chorus, pretty dances were arranged by Madame La Foy, and the orchestra's playing, under Mr. Henry Beauchamp's direction, was excellent, as usual. Miss Joan Tamworth was the author of the ingenious "book."

THE KENNINGTON.

"The Thirteenth Chair" is presented here by Albert de Courville's strong touring company for the first time out of the West-end. Miss Madge McIntosh is a conspicuous success in the part of Rosalie la Grange, and Miss Ethel Ward, as Helen O'Neill, shares with Miss McIntosh the honours of the strong, tense scene in the third act. Miss Sylvia Cavallo, as Mrs. Crosby and Miss Macnaughton as Helen Trent are also very good. Mr. Clifford Pembroke, as Sir Roscoe Crosby, and Saxon Sosher, as Will, do well in difficult parts. As Dick Webb, amongst others, Mr. Casper Middleton acted exceedingly well. The play was enthusiastically received by the large audience which the increasing popularity of this theatre attracted.

BRITISH PERFORMING RIGHTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

SIR,—We have closely followed the controversy with regard to British performing rights, and we think the time has arrived when we ought to state very shortly what is in our view the real point at issue.

The crux of the whole controversy is this: The publishers who have not joined our society prevent the composers and authors who publish with them from partaking of such revenues as the Act of Parliament which created performing rights meant them to have.

It is not generally known that when the society was formed the publisher members gave up to the society for the benefit of composer and author members two-thirds of the performing rights hitherto entirely owned by them in a very large repertoire of copyright works which had been published or acquired for publication before the formation of the society. This renunciation of rights already acquired by the publisher members was really the foundation on which the society has been built up.

Large sums have already been paid by the society to composers and authors as their share of fees collected for performing rights, and a substantial revenue is coming in for further distribution. It seems extremely unfair to those composers and authors who are still compelled to publish by contract or otherwise with publishers who refuse to come into the performing right scheme that they should be debarred entirely from sharing in this large revenue. The benefits which the society has earned for the musical profession without hindering performances generally or placing an unreasonable tax upon concert-givers or the general public would be much greater if all music publishers would join the society and give up a share of their performing rights to the authors and composers, as has been done by the present publisher members of the society.—Yours faithfully,

ASCHERBERG, HOPWOOD & CREW, LTD.
BOSWORTH & CO.
CHAPPELL & CO., LTD.
B. FELDMAN & CO.
FRANCIS, DAY & HUNTER.
HAWKES & SON.
SCHOTT & CO.
Publisher Members of the Committee of the Performing Rights Society, Ltd.
61-63, Shaftesbury-avenue, London, W. 1.
March 14, 1918.

"FOR HIS LADY'S HONOUR."

Romantic Costume Drama, by Lodge Percy and Henrietta Schrier, Produced at the Dalston Theatre on Monday, March 18.

Juvenile Lead .....William Hayward
Heavy Villain ..... John William
The Colonel ..... Dane Clark
The Jew ..... Fred. Blake
The Butler ..... Anybody
The Light Comedian .....Louis Bates
The Heavy Lady..Katherine Harrowby
The American .....Annie Graham
The Jew's Daughter ....Marie Thorne
The Leading Lady .....Ruby Lee

The scenery, uniforms, and appointments are all brand new, and the authors have aimed at presenting a pretty story rather than a lurid melodrama. It concerns the faithful love of a subaltern, Jack Seymour, and Marie Thesinger, and how they foil the dastardly schemes of the heavy villain, Capt. Frederick Firdinam, a villainous spy and would-be seducer of the deepest dye, and the adventuress Geraldine de Marenso, and gain happiness in the end. Some novel theatrical effects are introduced in the attempted kidnapping of Marie, the heiress, and the strangling of the adventuress by her paramour. Brazilia, of course, is an imaginary State. The various phases of the story exhibit the courage and endurance of the heroine, mainly in shielding her lover, who early in the play rescued her from brigands. In the end, naturally, the hero saves both his own and his lady's honour and her fortune from all assailants. An appropriate military flavour is given to the proceedings. Col. Borcasin is a sort of heavy comedian, whilst Lieut. Nicholas is the light variety. Mr. William Haywood as Juvenile Lead acts with earnestness and sincerity and declaims well. Mr. John William as the Heavy Villain is duly sinister and saturnine. Mr. Dane Clark as Col. Borcasin is amusing as the comedy colonel. Miss Ruby Lee herself invests the part of the heroine as leading lady with great buoyancy of spirit and vivacity.

The Heavy—melodramatically, not in avoirdupois—Lady is played by Miss Katherine Harrowby, who is extremely good in the part of the adventuress. The Light Comedian is Miss Louise Bates—a novelty in that the part is enacted by one of the fair sex.

ENTERTAINMENT TAX CASE.

At Whitehill (Hants) on Monday, Harry Richard Perry, licensee of the Church of England Bordon Electric Picturedrome, together with his wife, Minnie Perry, were charged under three informations laid by the Custom and Excise Authorities, with evading payment of the entertainment tax. Mr. G. C. Robertson (from the Solicitors' Department of Customs and Excise) prosecuted; Mr. G. H. King, of Portsmouth, defended. According to the case for the prosecution, a police-constable purchased two 8d. tickets, which were given to him not from a roll, but from a loose pile. Mrs. Perry collected them whole, and gave him in exchange two bits of two other tickets of an entirely different price. On another occasion, when accompanied by an Excise officer, two 1s. tickets were purchased, which were correctly taken from a roll, but when handed to the collector they were given halves of tickets of a different price. Mr. King intimated that he intended to plead guilty on behalf of his clients. He urged that, prior to his client having to join the Army, the business was conducted in a proper manner, and afterwards it was left to lady assistants, who had not been used to business. He contended that there was no regulation which required that a ticket should be torn off when purchased at the time, but these tickets were torn off beforehand in order to assist the lady in charge of the pay-box, who had lost her thumb and first finger of her right hand. Fined £21.

Miss Dorothy Levey mourns the loss of a loved father by the death of the Rev. S. J. Levey, minister of the Hanley Hebrew congregation.

BEFORE THE MIRROR.

By "JEANNETTE."

These are, undoubtedly, days of exceptional nervous strain for one and all of us. Anxiety, with its beauty-destroying influence, is casting its shadow over the lives of many of us women, and while, perhaps, a few—the more stoical amongst us—can avoid worrying over past or prospective events, we may all, with a little care and forethought, succeed in preventing the results of worry from being noticeable in our appearance. To these fortunate few this little chat will, however, be as interesting and instructive as to those who stand in real need of help in toilet matters, and may be the means of bringing to their notice some hitherto unknown method of retaining or regaining that beauty of face and figure which is the birthright of every woman. Some of the ingredients mentioned below are, at present, not generally known to the public, but any good chemist will usually be found to have a small quantity in stock.

Freckles and How to Cure Them.—It is always those with the finest and fairest skins who freckle most easily, but this knowledge is poor comfort when the face is disfigured with these ugly little blemishes. To prevent the formation of freckles, a wash should be applied to the face which will form a shield from the rays of the sun. A simple and inexpensive one can be made up at home by dissolving an ounce of cleminite in four table-spoonfuls of hot water. Shake the bottle, and when cold apply to the face and allow to dry on the skin. If this is done every day, renewing the application whenever the face is washed, and a little mercolized wax rubbed into the skin every night, freckles will not make their appearance, no matter how hot the sun. To remove freckles which have already formed, apply the wax every night, rub it well into the skin of the face and neck, and leave it on till the morning. Then wash off, using Pilenta soap and warm water.

To Reduce a Double Chin.—To reduce a double chin, give hard, firm massage every night with mercolized wax, stroking the flesh firmly backwards from the chin towards the lower portion of the neck. Do this every night, and in the morning bathe with cold water and rub into the skin a little parsidium jelly. This treatment will strengthen the flabby tissues and restore the contour of the face. Occasionally a double chin is due to stooping over books or work, but generally it is the result of putting on weight. When the latter is the case, a few clynol berries, eaten regularly every day, will greatly assist in reducing the superfluous flesh. A glass of hot water should be sipped after each meal.

The Hair—To Increase the Growth.—To arrest an undue falling of the hair and increase the growth, scalp massage and the application of a good tonic is absolutely necessary. Part the hair in the centre, and, starting at the forehead, massage for at least ten minutes. Then apply a tonic. A simple and inexpensive one can be made up at home by mixing one ounce of bornium (which can be bought at the chemist's) with a quarter of a pint of bay rum. Add the bornium to the bay rum, allow to stand for half an hour, then strain, and add sufficient water to make half a pint. Dab amongst the roots of the hair with a soft sponge.

Superfluous Hair. — Dark-complexioned women are far more frequently troubled with a growth of superfluous hair than those with fair skins, and at the first sign of these objectionable hairs, steps should be taken to remove them, or they will develop into a strong growth which will take a very long time to destroy. A little powdered pheminol applied to this growth will remove the unsightly blemish, destroying it permanently if the hairs be but few. Two or more applications may be necessary, if the growth be unusually strong, but about one ounce of pheminol should be sufficient for the most stubborn case. Pheminol can be obtained at the chemists, and a little powdered alum should be obtained at the same time for dusting the skin before applying the pheminol.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

TO DARKEN THE EYEBROWS (L. M.).—There is no dye which I could recommend as "safe," but if you rub a little mennaline into the eyebrows and at the roots of the eyelashes, regularly every night, it will darken them naturally and will also increase the growth of the eyelashes.

TO REDUCE WEIGHT (SADIE).—Yes, your weight and measurements are certainly more than they should be for your height, and I quite agree that being so stout makes you look old. I am pleased to be able to tell you of a quick, easy, and pleasant way to reduce both. Get a small quantity of clynol berries from the chemists and take one after each meal, three times a day. Weigh yourself after one month's treatment and you will be delighted with the result.

TO KEEP THE HAIR FAIR (DORIS).—If you shampoo your hair regularly with stallax granules it will prevent it from turning dark. One teaspoon of stallax is sufficient for a shampoo, and an original packet will make from twenty-five to thirty shampoos. Stallax keeps indefinitely.

TO IMPROVE A DULL, MUDDY COMPLEXION (D. B.).—Your complexion is dull and muddy-looking because it needs thorough cleansing and renewing of the outer cuticle. To do this get a tin of mercolized wax, and with the tips of the fingers rub a little gently into the skin, going over the entire face and neck. Leave the wax on all night and in the morning wash it off with a good soap (you will find Pilenta excellent). In a month's time you will notice a most surprising improvement. (2) Liquid pergol will prevent the excessive perspiration of which you complain. (3) Nothing can be done.

TO ARREST GREYNESS (FLO).—You are indeed far too young to go grey yet. Get about an ounce of concentrate of tammalite and mix it with four ounces of bay rum. Dab this on the hair and amongst the roots. It will soon make matters all right.

TO WHITEN A BROWN NECK (W. K.).—To whiten your neck use jettaline. Get a tube of this from the chemists and rub a little well into the skin of the neck; leave it on till next morning. Do this regularly every night for three or four weeks, and you will find that the skin will become beautifully clear and white.

"ERA" FINANCIAL SECTION.

BY OUR FINANCIAL EXPERT.

A REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

The feature of last week's business was the demand for Gaiety shares, on good buying by the well-known outside firm identified with dealings in amusement shares, the price having risen from 11s. to 13s. 9d. Alhambras are slightly lower at about 20s., the dividend of 5 per cent. being rather disappointing. Moss' Empires have hardened to 80s. on the dividend, which has just been declared at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

Alhambra.

The report of the Alhambra Company for the year ended Dec. 31 last states that the balance of profit brought forward amounted to £21,553, from which has to be deducted the loss for the year, £6,806, leaving £14,747. The directors recommend a dividend of 5 per cent. for the year, less tax, to write off productions account £10,000, and to carry forward £772. The debenture bond issue has been reduced by the annual redemption of £1,000. Meeting, Alhambra, W.C., 19th inst., noon.

Coliseum Syndicate.

The report of the Coliseum Syndicate, Ltd., for the year ended Dec. 31 last states total income £49,545, £48,185 brought forward, making £97,730. Dividend at rate of 25 per cent., making 25 per cent. for the year, less tax; £5,000 set aside in redemption of debenture stock; £58,541 carried forward. Meeting, London Coliseum, St. Martin's-lane, W.C., 20th inst., 11 a.m.

Moss' Empires.

The report of Moss' Empires for the year ended Dec. 31 last shows a credit balance of £134,608. After paying preference dividend for the year and ordinary dividend for the first half-year, there remains £104,054. The directors add £33,935 to general reserve, write £11,242 off special expenditure on property, and recommend a final dividend of the ordinary shares at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, less tax, leaving £37,876 to be carried forward. The annual meeting will be held on March 28, 1918, and the transfer books of the ordinary shares will be closed from March 18 to 28 inclusive.

V. M.

CURRENT MARKET QUOTATIONS OF THE PRINCIPAL THEATRE, MUSIC HALL AND CINEMA COMPANIES' SHARES.

The following Quotations, made up to Tuesday morning in each week, are supplied to us by Messrs. Keith, MacAllister and Co., Ltd., 53a, Shaftesbury Avenue, W,

Alhambra (London) £1 Ord. ..	¾—⅞	London Th. of Var. £1 Ord. ..	6—7/-
Assoc. Prov. Pic. Houses £1 Ord	8/—9/-	.. .. £1 7% Cum. Pref.	16/6—17/6
.. £1 6% Non-Cum. Pref.	⅛—¼	Leicester Pal. Th. £5 Ord. ..	4¾—4¾
B.B. Pictures £1 10% Cum. Pref.	8/—9/-	Manchester Hippo. £5 Ord. ..	5¼—5¾
Biograph Ths. 10s. "B" Ord. ..	1/6—2/-	.. 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	65—75
Birmingham Th. Royal 10/- Ord..	⅝—⅞	Manchester Pal. of Var. £1 Ord.	24/—26/-
.. 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	65—70	.. 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	90—95
Coliseum £1 Ord.	3—3¼	Manchester Th. Royal £10 Ord...	7¾—8¼
.. £1 6% Non Cum. Pref..	¾—1	Moss' Empires £5 Ord.	3⅞—4¼
.. 5½% 1st Mort. Debs. ..	96—98	.. .. £5 5% Cum. Pref.	3¾—½
Croydon Hip. 6% 1st Mort. Debs.	48—50	Metropolitan Th of Var. £1 Ord.	6/—7/-
Empire £1 Ord. (10s. pd.)	9/6—10/6	National Elec. Th. 10s. Ord. ..	6/6—7/6
.. £1 Ord. (15s. pd.)	¼—¾	New Century Pictures £1 Ord...	8/—11/-
Gaiety Theatre £1 Ord.	⅝—¾	Oxford £5 Ord...	3¼—½
Glasgow Alhambra £1 Ord. ..	2⅜—2⅝	Palace Theatre 10s. Ord. (9s. pd.)	13/6—14/6
.. Pavilion £1 Ordy. ..	2¾—3	Piccadilly Cir. Cin. Th. £1 Ord.	1¼—⅜
Hackney & Shep. Bush £5 Ord...	2¾—3¼	Provl. Cin. Th. £1 Ord.	30/—31/-
.. £5 6% Cum. Pref...	2¾—½	.. .. £1.7½% "A" Pref.	20/—21/-
.. 5% 1st Mort. Debs.	60—70	.. .. £1.7½% "B" Pref.	18/—19/-
Howard & Wyndham £5 Ord. ..	4⅝—4¾	Sheffield & Dis. Cin. Th. 10s. Ord.	24/—25/-
.. £5 5% Cum. Pref.	3¼—3½	Th. Royal (Drury Lane) £1 Ord.	8/3—9/9
London Pav. £5 Ord...	1—1½	United Theatres £5 Ord.	1½—2
.. .. £5 6% Cum. Pref. ..	2¼—3	.. .. £5 5% Cum. Pref.	2½—3
		Victoria Palace 10s. Ord... ..	22/—23/-

MARCH 19, 1918. *(Subject to market fluctuations).*

Keith, MacAllister & Co., Ltd.,
INVESTMENT BROKERS (INCORPORATED 1908),
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53a, SHAFTESBURY AVENUE, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W
Telegrams—Remember, Piccy, London. Telephone—Regent 506.

Following the precedents of the past two years the Birmingham Licensing Justices have authorised the opening of cinemas between 2 and 10 p.m. on Good Friday, experience showing that suitable entertainments can be provided without cause of complaint.

Mr. Arthur Rosebery's highly successful drama, "For Sweethearts and Wives," is this week proving a big draw at the Elephant Theatre. The play is presented by an excellent company, and the whole production reflects credit on the author-manager.

The Bacillus Influenzæ, which is responsible for all cases of Influenza. From an actual micro-photograph of the microbes magnified 940 diameters, taken at our Runcorn Bacteriological Laboratories.

Even in perfectly healthy throats there are myriads of these tiny microbes — the Micrococcus Catarrhalis. Evans' Pastilles will work against these microbes.

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Bacteriologists have been wonderfully successful in late years in discovering and isolating for observation purposes the various micro-organisms which are responsible for disease.

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Filmland

NEWS AND REVIEWS OF THE PICTURE WORLD

EMOTION ON THE SCREEN.

A LEADING ACTRESS'S VIEWS.

On which is it easier to depict emotion—the stage or the cinema? The question was put to Miss Annie Saker, the leading lady of "Seven Days' Leave," which is enjoying such a phenomenal run at the Lyceum, and dealt specifically with the realistic acting of Miss Helen Holmes in "The Lass of the Lumberlands. "As one who has played both for the camera and also, but of course far longer and more frequently, for the theatre," replied the popular actress, "I may say without hesitation that I consider the spoken play lends itself to a more artistic and convincing display of emotional acting than the cinema can ever hope to do. For the voice is the organ of the body, and no organ has a greater range of notes, showing every emotion of which human expression is capable—fear, love, tenderness, pity, and so forth.

"These must be portrayed on the screen by facial and physical gesture and facial play, and just as it is difficult to imagine a dumb man being able to plead his cause so well as does one with his voice, so it is difficult to think that the film actor, thus handicapped, can hope to portray emotion as well as it is done on the stage, where words are spoken.

"The Western races, too, have not those mobile and eloquent gestures which are so richly employed by people of the Latin and Jewish races. The film has its own advantages, but in depicting emotion it would seem to me to lag behind the emotional acting in the theatre proper."

"WAIFS."

CHARMING ROMANCE OF THE THEATRE.

Production .....Triangle
Star .....Dorothy Dalton
Type .....Drama
Length .....Five Parts

A delightful photo-play was shown by the Triangle Corporation at the Shaftesbury Pavilion on Friday. The author of a popular novel is prevailed upon to dramatise his work, but thinks the leading lady of the theatre where the play is to be produced too refined and distinguished in appearance to play the part of a down-town derelict. In order to convince him of her versatility, the actress disguises herself as a fallen woman of the slums, and is so successful in her subterfuge that the author thinks he has hit upon an ideal type of person to impersonate his heroine. When later he discovers the deception which has been practised he is indignant, and though he allows the play to be produced he will have nothing to do with the heroine. A great success is achieved, but the author departs from the theatre without waiting for congratulations. But "the waif," defying convention, gains access to his flat, and, in a charming scene, obtains not only his forgiveness, but his love. The acting was perfect, and the film met with marked approbation.

"A SQUARE DEAL."

TRIANGLE'S "STRONG MAN" IN A FITTING ROLE.

Production .....Triangle
Star .....W. S. Hart
Type .....Drama
Length .....Two Parts
Release .....Aug. 1

Also shown, this two-reeler is full of incident. Bat Peters, a miner who has come from the West to dispose of several specimens of valuable ore, comes into contact with a crooked dealer. This man, thinking he has a soft thing in hand, determines to grab the mine, the first step being to get rid of the owner. He discloses his plans to confederates, but is overheard by his typist, who, discovered in the act of eavesdropping, is kidnapped by them. But after many vicissitudes, the girl is rescued by Peters, and the thieving plans of the gang frustrated. W. S. Hart, in the principal part, is excellently suited.

"STOLEN HONOUR."

A STORY OF INTRIGUE, IN WHICH A GOOD WOMAN WINS.

Production .....William Fox
Star .....Virginia Pearson
Type .....Drama
Length .....4,238 Feet
Release .....July 15

A well produced and acted film was shown by Fox at their weekly show last Wednesday. In this Miss Virginia Pearson acts excellently as Virginia Lake, an artist who is commissioned to paint a copy of a beautiful old master, as the original is about to be returned to Italy, from where it had been stolen. The girl has enemies in Reccia and the Countess Colona, two members of the Italian Embassy, who steal her copy and replace it with the old master itself. The fraud is discovered on the public presentation of the picture to the Ambassador, and Virginia's good name defamed. But the girl invites the two conspirators to a reception at her house, where, with the help of her clever dog, she turns the tables so thoroughly that her enemies are requested to leave Washington and never return. A typical Sunshine comedy, "Damaged No Goods," was also screened, it being just the film for these days.

[See our Film Markings.]

"STREETS OF ILLUSION."

AN UNSELFISH GIRL'S INFLUENCE FOR GOOD.

Production ..... Pathé
Type ..... Drama
Star ..... Miss Gladys Hulette
Length ..... Five Reels
Release ..... July 22

An interesting and prettily told story of a young girl's nobility of character, "Streets of Illusion," the latest Pathé Gold Rooster to be screened, is a picture that will delight all who see it. The unselfish heroine is Beam Cosgrove, who, when her brother leaves for the Mexican front, takes in boarders in order to support herself and her blind father, Colonel Cosgrove. Her new enterprise brings her into contact with all sorts and conditions of men—and a woman. To the latter's somewhat neglected child Beam acts as "little mother," and her cheery, kindly disposition brings out all the good in the other boarders. Very touching are the scenes wherein Beam gives her blind father to believe that her brother—who through fear deserts from the Army—is a hero; and the picture throughout, with its delightful blend of comedy and pathos, is a most appealing and human one. Miss Gladys Hulette as Beam gives a charmingly natural impersonation, and all the other characters are well played.

[See our Film Markings.]

"I WILL REPAY."

MURDER WILL OUT.

Production ..... Jewel
Star ..... Dorothy Phillips
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Reels
Distributors ..... Ruffell's

Ruffell's new screen play, "I Will Repay," is a strong drama of Western life. Joe Lawson and Hal Curtis are friends. Lawson, a wild and lawless character, deserts his wife and child, and proposes to elope with Hilda Hendrichs. Curtis endeavours to prevent him, and a quarrel ensues, Curtis's wife being killed and Curtis himself left for dead. The guilty man then escapes with the girl, taking his one-time friend's baby with them. Seventeen years later Lawson is known as "Killer" White, owner of a gambling saloon. The baby, which has grown up into a beautiful girl, Marta, is compelled to mix with the rough men at the saloon. Bud Lawson, a stranger, meets her, falls in love with Marta, and later rescues the girl from the unwelcome attentions of one of the men. In the fight that ensues "Killer" White joins in, and is thrown from a window by a strange man. Before "Killer" dies, the stranger tells him that Bud is the son that had been deserted by White years ago, and he himself Curtis, the father of Marta. The acting throughout is very good.

[See our Film Markings.]

"IN THE BALANCE."

THE VICTIM OF MANY-TONGUED RUMOUR, AN ACTRESS PROVES HERSELF A TRUE WOMAN.

Production .....Vitagraph
Stars .....Earle Williams and Grace Darmond
Type .....Drama
Length .....Five Reels

"In the Balance," shown at the West End Cinema on Wednesday last, shows how Louise Maurel, a distinguished actress, meeting John Strangeways when stranded far from her destination owing to a motor mishap, is hospitably invited by him to his home in the vicinity. John quickly falls in love with his beautiful guest, and follows her to town. A dissolute Society man, in the person of the Prince of Seyre, is also paying attention to Louise, and a coarse remark with reference to her is overheard by John, who hotly resents it, and in the ensuing fracas the Prince is badly worsted. John, sighing for the open country after a few weeks of city life, returns home, his love for Louise almost dead owing to the slanderous stories current concerning her. But later he is overjoyed when Louise seeks him again, and explains everything concerning her past to his complete satisfaction. The acting was excellent.

"THE SON OF THE IMMORTALS."

THE ADVENTURES OF A KING WHO HAS A SHORT REIGN BUT AN EXCITING ONE.

Production ..... Bluebird
Star ..... J. Warren Kerrigan
Type ..... Romantic Drama
Length ..... Five Parts
Controllers ..... Ward's Films

Founded on the novel by Louis Tracy, "The Son of the Immortals," screened at the West End Cinema on Friday, is a romantic story, full of thrills, with a pretty love interest, and played in most picturesque surroundings. Prince Alexis, owing to his foppish father's fear of assassination, is placed on the throne of Kosnovia, where he speedily wins the hearts of the people by his kindly ways, and incurs the hatred of the war party, who had expected a monarch whom they could easily handle. Three times does the War Minister, Stampoff, plan his death, but, needless to say, each attempt is frustrated. In the end, when the Prince refuses to give up the idea of marrying Joan, a young American girl whom he had met in the old Bohemian days in Paris, his mother makes a confession which settles the matter, and although the young people are happy, there is much disappointment in store for the Kosnovians at the loss of so popular and democratic a ruler. Mr. J. Warren Kerrigan as the kindly, easy-going, but brave young Prince gives a very engaging portrayal; and the other parts are all excellently played. The sensational scenes and the handling of the crowds are cleverly managed, and the picture altogether is one that is sure to make a popular appeal.

"POTS AND PANS PEGGY."

Production ..... Thanhouser
Star ..... Gladys Hulette
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Reels

A simple, pretty little story was screened by Thanhouser on Wednesday afternoon in "Pots and Pans Peggy," with Miss Gladys Hulette as the star. Peggy, who has four young sisters and brothers to support, becomes a maid-of-all-work in a family consisting of a mother, one son, and one daughter. The mother practically forces Marion, her daughter, into an engagement with Howard Deane, a reputed millionaire, although she has given her love elsewhere. Arthur, the son, is given Government employment by Deane. The way in which Peggy traces the theft of important Government plans to Deane, and so clears Arthur's name, is very cleverly carried through, and a happy ending is arrived at by Marion eloping with the man she loves, and Peggy herself promising to marry a taxi-driver who has been too shy to declare his love till he sees her lying ill in bed. Miss Gladys Hulette, in mob-cap and apron, makes a daintily charming maid-of-all-work. "The Substitute" was also shown, giving a very comical version of a boxing match.

[See our Film Markings.]

"MACISTE—STRONG MAN."

A RE-ISSUE OF A POPULAR FILM.

Production .....Italia Film Co.
Type .....Drama
Star .....Maciste
Length .....Five Reels
Distributors .....Walturdaw Co.

A welcome re-issue is that of "Maciste," which was so very popular when released a short time ago. The story is written round the amazing strength of Maciste, who, time after time, defeats his enemies by wonderful feats of daring. Maciste in this film proves himself a fine actor as well as a strong man. Although booked by many picture houses, this production should repeat its success when it commences its second run. At the same trade show we also viewed "Lend Me Your Wife," which is a good comedy, starring an old favourite, namely Tweedledum.

"ON TRIAL."

FAMOUS PLAY ON THE SCREEN.

Production .....F. B. O.
Star .....Sidney Ainsworth
Length .....Seven Reels
Type .....Melodrama

Very dramatic and full of thrills is the film version of "On Trial," which was screened at the Alhambra on Friday. Robert Strickland, on trial upon a charge of murder and theft, suffers the exquisite torture of hearing his wife in her evidence reveal all the past sad secrets of her life, and the operation of the "unwritten law" ensures his acquittal upon the murder charge. The way in which the obstinacy of one juryman finally reveals the identity of the real thief is very cleverly worked out. The acting in this film is extremely masterful, Mr. Sidney Ainsworth as Robert Strickland and Miss Barbara Castleton as his wife being especially praiseworthy. Mary McAlister, as Robert's little daughter, gave a delightful performance, being absolutely natural and entirely lacking in precocity. Although a veritable masterpiece for plot and acting, the film was too long, and would be greatly improved by the absence of some of the court scenes which were apt to become very tedious.

"SNAP JUDGMENT."

THE ADVENTURES OF A SWELL NEW YORKER IN ARIZONA.

Production ....American Film Co. Inc.
Star ..... William Russell
Length ..... Five Acts
Type ..... Sensational Drama
Distributors Bolton's Mutual Films, Ltd.

This thrilling drama, shown at the Super Cinema on Monday morning, is typical of the adaptability of the American character. It is concerned with the adventures of Jimmie Page, a forceful young society man, who oversleeps on his wedding morning. Hurrying to the house of the expectant bride, he sees three crooks waylaying "Smiling" Baldwin, a cattle king, and rushes to his assistance. Jimmie is eventually arrested, and at the police station a reporter, jumping to the conclusion that he is guilty, hurries off to the newspaper office with his "stunt" before the real facts come out. The result is that Jimmie is turned out of his father's house and goes West with Baldwin. In the meantime Pete Rawley, the ringleader of the crooks, holds up the saloon at Lone Star, and when Jimmie arrives he is mistaken for Pete. Events are further complicated when Jimmie's fiancée, hurrying after her lover, is held up by Pete Rawley. Exciting happenings then follow each other, until the doubles eventually meet face to face.

William Russell's acting in the dual capacity is beyond praise.

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March 27th,
at 2.30 o.m.

WE MAKE ALL OUR OWN
LANTERN SLIDES
SO YOU ARE "SAFE" IN PLACING YOUR ORDERS WITH US.

ORDERS FOR THE PROFESSION EXECUTED WITH ESPECIAL PROMPTITUDE.

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FILMLAND GOSSIP.

"The Better 'Ole."

During April, "The Better 'Ole," or "The Romance of Old Bill," the first of Messrs. Welsh and Pearson's productions, will be shown to the trade. Charles Rock will be seen as Old Bill, Bairnsfather's famous pen-character. Other parts are played by Mary Dibley, Arthur Cleave, and Hugh E. Wright. Probably no more popular play than this could have been secured for filming purposes, and I am sure that in "The Better 'Ole" the new firm will find the top rung of the ladder of success.

More Cartoons.

Nearly every exhibitor is familiar with the clever comedy posters designed by Mr. Victor Hicks, and will therefore be interested to see his animated cartoon, which, I am told, is now nearing completion. I was very much amused when Mr. Hicks told me that he had been working hard all day, and had only completed one minute, three seconds. However, when asked for an explanation, the artist detailed the work he had done in order to make a length of his cartoon, which would only last on the screen for a little more than a minute. Thus a 10-minute cartoon might be three or four weeks in the making.

The Censorship Question.

The comment aroused by Ideal's Evelyn Thaw film, the fact that it has been passed for exhibition by The British Board of Film Censors, coupled with the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association's statement that "any film exploiting the notoriety of Evelyn Thaw is prejudicial to the best interests of the industry," only serves to bring about what the trade would be glad to welcome—the appointment of a Censor whose authority would be recognised throughout the Kingdom. With the British Board of Film Censors and the Council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association at variance, one would naturally expect to find other opinions fairly equally divided. However, such does not seem to be the case. The views of well-known persons, who at the invitation of "The Era" saw the film at the Ideal Co.'s showrooms, are nearly all in agreement with the decision of the Censor. But the Censor's power, unfortunately, does not extend far enough: any local Watch Committee may step in and object to the showing of a film passed for public exhibition by the British Board of Film Censors. This state of affairs should not be allowed to continue, and it is to be earnestly hoped that some action to bring about better conditions will not be subject to delay. Perhaps the best, certainly the easiest and quickest method of acquiring a Government Censor would be to extend official power to the present Board of Censors.

Gaumont.

In spite of the precautions taken to ensure that negatives are in England before any trade shows are announced, the Gaumont Film Hire Service has had the misfortune to be "let down" with the negative for "Poppy," which, although it has arrived at Liverpool from America, is now wandering about "somewhere in England." Fortunately, however, the Gaumont Film Hire Service has been able to arrange to substitute "Magda." Clara Kimball Young plays the title-rôle in this screen version of the famous play, which, it will be remembered, made its first appearance in London at Daly's Theatre in 1895, when the divine Sarah herself played the name-part. The play met with instant success, and later was translated into Italian, and was also performed in New York. The film very closely follows the play, and Clara Kimball Young will be greatly admired in the beautiful dresses which the atmosphere of the film calls for.

Triangle Trade Show.

"The Bride of Hate," a drama with scenes of action representing Louisana during the days of 1850, will be presented at Triangle's trade show on Friday next. Frank Keenan is the artist featured; he is seen as Dr. Dupres, a plantation owner, who uses a beautiful slave as an instrument of revenge in righting a family wrong. Margery Wilson appears as Mercedes, the slave girl, and the rest of the cast includes Jerome Storm, David M. Hartford, Elvira Weil, and Mrs. J. Hunt. "Knight of the Trail," a two-reel drama, screened. A particularly notable thrill in screened. A particularly notable thrill in this film is the exciting race between an express train and a stage coach.

A New Film Star.

The Fox Film Company, under whose banner many popular stars appear, announce that on March 27, they will introduce, at their weekly trade show, a new and beautiful actress, Madame Sonia Markova. "A Heart's Revenge," the film in which Madame Markova appears, is a thrilling drama of modern life, dominated by the mysteries of the ancient East. On the same occasion, "Shadows of Her Past," the fourth of the Sunshine Comedies, will be shown. The next Fox trade show at the Alhambra will be held on Tuesday, March 26, when William Farnum will be seen featured in a drama, entitled "The Heart of a Lion." Adapted from the novel, "The Doctor," by Ralph Connor, the film offers Farnum a part in which he literally revels.

Bolton's.

Bolton's Mutual Films, Limited, announce a trade show to be held at the Super Cinema, Charing Cross-road, on Monday, March 25, at 11 a.m., the film selected for presentation being "Peggy Leads the Way," featuring Mary Miles Minter, who, with her usual charm and grace, portrays a character that is entirely novel to her many admirers. The story is a romantic one, intermixed with comedy, and the locale of the play is amidst some of Nature's most beautiful settings.

WEST END CINEMA THEATRE,
Coventry Street, W.
Sole Proprietor ... G. F. SEXTON.
'Phone 2588 Regent.

ALL THIS WEEK.

MOTHER-LOVE

A TENDER TALE OF A MOTHER'S DEVOTION.
Suggested by Rudyard Kipling's Famous Poem "MOTHER O'MINE."

Also

"THE BUILDING of the BRITISH EMPIRE." Part 9.—Hong Kong, Shanghai, New Zealand.

SPARKLING COMEDIES AND MANY OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Bolton's Mutual Films Ltd.
89-91, WARDOUR STREET, LONDON, W.
'PHONES, REGENT 5232, REGENT 803 TELEGRAMS, MUTUAMOS-GK-LONDON

Hepworth's.

Alma Taylor, who appeared to such advantage in Hepworth's recent production, "The Touch of a Child," has received a letter of appreciation from Leon M. Lion, part-author of the play, who expresses himself as being delighted with Miss Taylor's work. This, however, is not the first occasion on which an author has written congratulating Miss Taylor, Sir Arthur Pinero, after the trade show of "Iris," addressed a letter to the British film star expressing his appreciation of her portrayal of one of his most well-known characters.

Walturdaw.

Messrs. Walturdaw are exceedingly pleased with the reception accorded their decision to re-issue "Maciste—Strong Man." Maciste's rapid accession to fame is in no small measure due to the tuition of Gabriel D'Annunzio, the Italian poet. Every film in which this "strong man" appears has been more than ordinarily successful, and Messrs. Walturdaw, I am sure, have acted wisely by affording exhibitors further opportunity to present this film, which picture-goers would enjoy seeing on more than one occasion.

Concentrated Interest.

Pathé's "Weekly Pictorial," judging from the aims of the producers, should prove to be an extremely interesting item for any programme. Embodying art, science, industry, and scenes in colour of places of interest, the "Weekly" is certain to meet with an enthusiastic reception on account of the variety of subjects dealt with in each issue. Pathé's have always done all they can to foster the progress of educational films, and this, the latest addition to their programme is another step forward on the path they have pursued in the past.

Pathé.

On Wednesday next, "Over the Hill," a five-reel Gold Rooster play, is to be the attraction at Pathé's Roof Garden Theatre. Gladys Hulette, who was "starred" in two films shown to the trade last week, is the artiste featured, and I am told that in this production she appears to very great advantage.

L.I.F.T.

London Independent on April 3 will present a picture of quite extraordinary character under the tantalising title of "Torment." This film, which has been produced by the Cines Co., features such well-known players as Aurele Sydney (Ultus) and Giovani Grasse.

Other forthcoming productions are "The Little Terror," a Bluebird picturing the merry-hearted Violet Mersereau, and several elaborate offerings from the Cines and Itala studios. The trade show of the London Independent's new short serial, "Mysteries of the Castle of Malmort," to be given at the West End Cinema on the 31st inst., will commence at 11 a.m., and not as previously announced.

Phillips.

The list of "bookings to date" issued at regular intervals by the Phillips Film Co. makes its reappearance again this week. Their record-breaker is the five-part Bluebird release, "The Mutiny of the Alden Besse," which has secured over 200 new contracts since the Phillips list was last issued, its total now standing at the impressive figure of over 700 bookings.

Treading close on the heels of "The Mutiny" is another Bluebird, "The Fulfilling of the Law."

The Phillips Film Co.'s Ella Hall release, "The Dream that Came True," will be available for inspection by provincial exhibitors during next week, dates having been arranged at Manchester, Leeds, and Liverpool. The release date of the first of the "Cubs"—which will be weekly issues—is due at an early date, and their appeal will be enhanced by a skilful use of special posters, of which particulars and prices may be obtained on application to the Phillips Film Co.

Ward's Films.

Mr. Harry Ward tells me that he is well satisfied with the success "The Son of the Immortals" met with at the trade show on Wednesday last, and that he is confident that "Princess Virtue," starring Mae Murray, will also be appreciatively received.

"Prisoners of War."

An interesting two-reel film, depicting the conditions which prevail for British Prisoners of War interned in Switzerland, is to be shown at the Phœnix Theatre, Oxford-street, W., on Thursday, March 28, at 11.30 a.m. There are few of us who have not a friend or relation among those men who are interned. It is this fact that invests the picture with more than ordinary interest. The film is being issued by the Anglo-Swiss Trading Co., Ltd., of 58a, Hatton Garden.

"The Price of a Good Time."

The Ideal feel certain of a big audience when they show "The Price of a Good Time" at the West End Cinema next Tuesday. It has already been mentioned in these columns that this film made such a stir on the other side that one night, three months ago, a crowd outside one of the theatres where the picture was being shown broke down the theatre doors in the rush to gain admission.

"Waifs."

Miss Dorothy Dalton has a difficult rôle to portray in Triangle's "Waifs," and the manner in which she succeeds was remarked about by many of the "viewers" at the trade show on Friday last. The supporting cast in this production is quite a strong one, and the scenes of some of the settings of the play, "When George Was King," were most favourably commented on. In fact, the production had such an enthusiastic reception from a large and representative audience that it may well be regarded as a Triangle triumph.

United Kingdom Photoplays, Ltd.

This enterprising firm, controlled by Mr. Colin Campbell, is holding its first London trade show on Friday next. A Hepworth film, "The Blindness of Fortune," in which Chrissie White, Lionelle Howard, and Violet Hopson play the leading parts, is to be screened. Mr. Campbell has several other important films to show to the trade in London shortly, including "Should a Baby Die?" the film which has been such a great success in America.

Francelia Billington Farming.

Miss Francelia Billington, in spite of her somewhat fragile appearance, is very fond of an outdoor life, and since the outbreak of war has invested in 160 acres of land, the working of which she actively supervises.

Sir George Alexander.

The death of Sir George Alexander is not only a blow to the stage, but removes one of the most striking personalities in the picture world. Sir George never hesitated for one moment about embarking his great name and abilities in the youngest of public amusements, and he entered with great zest into his first picture, the Ideal's "Second Mrs. Tanqueray," in which, it will be remembered, he played his old part of Aubrey Tanqueray.

Sir George Alexander also appeared in the famous preliminary scene to "Masks and Faces." At the time of his death Sir George had a number of uncompleted contracts for appearing in Ideal pictures. The sad event will thus entail a serious loss to the industry, and to the millions of picture-goers all over the country.

"The Co-Respondent."

Mr. Arthur Backner, of Granger's Exclusives, Ltd., tells me that the bookings in London of the super "Jewel" production, "The Co-Respondent," have been simply phenomenal, and that within two days of the trade view every first run of importance in London and greater London had been successfully negotiated. An interesting item in respect of this film, which features Elaine Hammerstein, is the fact that Mr. Langdon, of the Stoll Picture Theatre—which was built by Miss Hammerstein's grandfather—was among the first to book it.

Granger's Forthcoming Attractions.

I am told that Mr. A. G. Granger, of Granger's Exclusives, Ltd., has acquired the U.K. rights of "Betsy Ross," a film dealing with the stirring times of America's War of Independence. The theme of the story centres in the making of the Stars and Stripes for George Washington by the revered little patriot Betsy Ross, played with unusual charm by Alice Brady.

In addition to this attraction Granger's will shortly present several other big exclusives, including "The Beloved Adventuress," featuring Kitty Gordon, and a subject of very topical interest with Louise Lovely as star.

Cook and Cinema Comedienne.

Miss Margarita Fischer, star of Bolton's Mutual Films, is such a good cook that she has involved herself in the editing of a war cookbook, in which all the recipes are tested personally before being accepted.

"Cannibal" Luncheon.

I noticed quite a number of people connected with the film trade at the luncheon given by the Cannibal Club, the object of which was to afford members and their friends an opportunity of hearing, at first hand, the views of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Mr. Charles Trevelyan, and Mr. Arthur Ponsonby. One can hardly discuss politics in these columns unless the welfare of the industry is concerned, but I am prepared to vouch that those members of the trade who were present at the luncheon are not in agreement with the MacDonald trio. In fact, I rather fancy that some of the expressions of disapproval of views expounded by one of the trio came from a well-known member of the trade.

Broadway, New Cross.

Mr. G. Furneaux, who has controlled the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, since its opening two years ago, issues a well edited magazine, which is both a programme and review. The number before us contains an interesting article on Chopin; short synopses of the feature films; details of programme and the orchestral music, and many "Items of Interest" relating to the artistes appearing on the screen during the week. It is altogether a bright "house organ," and, I am sure, must be greatly appreciated by Mr. Furneaux's patrons.

Sutton.

"The Laughing Cavalier" is the principal attraction at the Hippodrome, and is followed throughout with unflagging interest. The remainder of the programme is up to the customary high level of excellence. From to-morrow (Thursday) the ninth episode of "Patria" and "The Weaker Sex" will be the outstanding features.

"The Conquest of Canaan" is at the cosy Cheam-road Picture Theatre for the current half of the week, the programme also including "The Crooks," a two-reel Triangle comedy, which creates unbounded merriment. To-morrow (Thursday) patrons will have an opportunity of witnessing Charlie Chaplin in "The Pawnshop," and "The Lifeguardsman," adapted from Walter Howard's famous play of that name.

Watford.

The principal pictures at the Empire this week are "Daddy" and "Coming 'Thro' the Rye." During the showing of these pictures Miss Queenie Wilshire, a well-known local contralto, renders in very sympathetic style the well-known songs from which the titles of these two pictures are taken. Other items in the programme include "Looking 'Em Over," "Actors and Anvils," "Bursting into Society," and "By 'Speshul' Delivery."

"Love or Justice," "The Night Workers," and another of the series of French War Pictures, help to make up a capital programme at the Central Hall this week.

At the Electric Coliseum on Monday the leading picture is an exciting drama, entitled "The Gun Fighters." On Thursday "The Great White Way" is to be screened. The comedies for the week are "A. W. S.," "His Busted Thrush," and "The French Milliner."

Accrington.

During the first half of the week, "Skinner's Bubble" occupies the premiere position in an attractive programme at the Empire Palace. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Mr. Brennier will present "Moll o' My Heart," a five-part film featuring Gail Kane, and "The Pawnshop," a two-part Chaplin comedy.

At the Palace, Mr. Stewart is screening "A Kentucky Cinderella," and "A Rough House." On Thursday "The Crystal Gazer" and "Three Ways Out" are to be the special attractions.

Belfast.

At the Picture House, Royal-avenue, the attractions are: "Dick Carson Wins Through," a four-reel photo-play featuring Henry Edwards and Chrissie White; and "The Promise," a five-part Metro-play.

At the Imperial the Famous Players present Pauline Frederick in "Sapho," "Patria" (final episode), "For the Flag," and "At the Count of Ten," &c.

The Clonard are featuring "Sophy of Kravonia," "Asthore," "The Secret Kingdom," &c.

Blackpool.

The Palace management are showing "Every Girl's Dream," featuring June Caprice, and "A Self-made Widow," with Alice Brady in the title-rôle.

The Tivoli is drawing big audiences with "A Gamble for Love" and Charlie Chaplin in "The Immigrant." "The House Opposite," starring Matheson Lang, will be presented during the latter portion of the week.

The Hippodrome maintains its popularity with "Millionaire Hullet's Adventure," and promises further pleasure in "It's Never too Late to Mend."

Bridlington.

The leading features at the Grand Pavilion Cinema are the Vitagraph film, "Womanhood, the Glory of the Nation," and a Triangle drama, "The Gunfighter."

At the Palace Picture House we have "Satan's Private Door," "The Girl from Frisco," "Miss Jackie of the Navy," and "Patria," episode 7.

Brighton.

"Moll o' My Heart," featuring Gail Kane, is being presented by Mr. S. V. W. Johnson at the Palladium. Another fine film in the same programme is "The Marcellini Millions." On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday "The Midnight Man" and "The Rescue" will be screened.

At the Academy, Gladys Cooper and Malcolm Cherry are to be seen in an adaptation of Edward Knoblock's stage success, "My Lady's Dress." During the latter portion of the week "The Undying Flame" will be the principal film.

Bristol.

Leading pictures for the week at Olympia Cinema Theatre include Mary Pickford in the six-reel film, "The Pride of the Clan"; and Pauline Frederick in "The Woman in the Case," Famous Players' production.

The fact that the Bedminster Hippodrome, Bristol, is an Oswald Stoll house will be impressed much more emphatically upon the minds of movie patrons in the Western metropolis from Monday in this week as the name was then changed to the "Stoll Picture House." Mr. S. Fortescue Harrison, the manager, announces as leading pictures for the week: "The Devil's Assistant," featuring Margarita Fisher; "The Innocent Sinner"; "The Clodhopper"; and "Skinner's Bubble."

Triangle Hall is showing "The Gift Girl," featuring Louise Lovely; "The Man from Nowhere," and "The Kentucky Cinderella."

His Majesty's.—"The Valentine Girl," featuring Marguerite Clark.

The Metropole.—"The Little Brother," featuring Enid Bennett; and "His Precious Life," with Louise Fazenda in the leading part.

Buxton.

At Buxton Hippodrome, "Nannette of the Wilds" was given a cordial reception. "The Vixen" also makes a highly interesting subject. Part II. of "The Building of the British Empire" was attentively followed.

At Buxton Picture House, "Clover's Rebellion" found numerous patrons and many admirers of the beautiful setting of this film. Marie Corelli's "Holy Orders" makes a story on the screen to be remembered, and the dramatisation is striking in its effectiveness. A good programme also included "Intrigues of Paris."

Cardiff.

"The Savage" has been reported as the best film Phillips have sent since "The Mutiny of the Alden Besse." With an Ella Hall release, "The Dream That Came True" to follow, and a second "Super-Feature" on the heels of that, the South Wales business of the Phillips Co. seems to be in for a boom.

Dundee.

Mr. Arthur G. Brown submits a fine assortment of films at La Scala, the star pictures this week being "My Lady's Dress," featuring Gladys Cooper and Malcolm Cherry, and "The Gay Lord Quex," an adaptation of Sir Arthur Pinero's play.

At the Victoria Palace Theatre, Messrs. R. C. Buchanan and Stanley Rogers present Anita Stewart in "The Message of the Mouse," and Louise Huff and Jack Pickford in "Freckles."

Greenock.

The Palace.—Mr. John Curtin, who for the last eight years was assistant manager at Hengler's Circus, Glasgow, has taken up the reins of management at the Palace here. This week Mr. Curtin submits an excellent programme, which includes "The Undying Flame," featuring Olga Petrova, and another powerful drama, "Contested Power." At the B.B. Cinema on Monday, the chief feature was "Hearts in Exile." For to-morrow, Thursday, "Forbidden Paths" is announced.

At the Central the principal films are "The Stolen Paradise" and "King of the People." The serials are "Is Marriage Sacred?" and "Building the British Empire."

Hitchin.

Blake's Pictures are this week presenting "Sally Bishop," starring Aurele Sydney and Peggy Hyland, "American Units in France," "The King's Daughter," and "The Topical Budget."

"Her Double Life" and "Playing Fair" are the two chief pictures for each half of this week at Hitchin Playhouse.

Ilfracombe.

At the Palace Cinema the attractions of the week are a Metro-play featuring Olga Petrova and Broadwest's "The House Opposite."

The Empire Cinema is screening "Shell 43" and "His Golden Hour."

Leeds.

Mr. "Joe" Lawrence, of the Phillips Film Co., asks me to remind managers that his firm is in the trade show list again for next Tuesday, when he will be in charge, at the Picture House, Briggate, of the first Yorkshire screening of "The Dream That Came True."

Mr. Lawrence, who is a Man Without a Home at the moment, owing to the unkind attentions of German air raiders to his usual residence in London, is finding consolation in the big business he continues to do all over Yorkshire with "The Man Without a Country" and "The Savage."

Leicester.

Mr. Harold B. Hill, at the Cinema de Luxe, features during this week "The Sunset Trail" (Lasky), starring Vivian Martin; "A Law Unto Himself" (David Horsley), with Crane Wilbur as the lead; "Are You a Mason?" (Famous Players), with popular John Barrymore, and "Queen of the Ballet."

Mr. Jack H. Walter, at the King's Hall, this week, is featuring Mary Miles Minter in "Annie for Spite," and William Russell in "The Frame Up."

Liverpool.

Mr. Jack Green is more than a little pleased at the business he is doing with the Phillips Film Co.'s latest Bluebird release, "The Savage," which, following so close upon "The Man Without a Country," has given him an excellent start as representative of this company.

Manchester Films.

Phillips' stock is even higher than usual since the recent display of "The Savage," which, largely by reason of the amazing acting of Monroe Salisbury, is regarded as one of the most striking successes to reach Manchester for quite a long time. "The Dream That Came True" is also an unusual production, in which Ella Hall is quite at her best.

Perhaps the most interesting films showing in Manchester this week is at the Palladium, "The Honour System," which depicts the horrible conditions upon which prison reform in America took a forward stride, specifically in the prisons of Arizona. Some of the scenes are repulsively barbarous in their realistic treatment of the convicts, and the story is embellished by the most exciting incidents. This picture is dramatically strong enough to hold big houses all the week.

For the whole of the week also the Deansgate Picture House is relying upon the attractive power of Mary Pickford in the fine dramatic film, "The Little American."

At the Grosvenor the picture version of the Drury Lane drama, "The Whip," is going strong, as usual, and this will be succeeded on Thursday by the modernised Dickens play, "Dombey and Son."

"Dick Carson Wins Through" at the Market Street house, featuring Henry Edwards and Chrissie White, shares the prime honours of the week with "Richard the Brazen"; and the two pictures for the week at the Oxford are "The Promise" (Harold Lockwood and May Allison) and "The Rescue," which appears on Thursday.

There will be three nights of "Hater of Men," featuring Bessie Barriscale, at the Empress Electric, and afterwards Mary Pickford in "The Pride of the Clan."

North Midlands.

Mr. Walshaw, of the Phillips' Film Co., tells me he gets a great number of inquries still for "The Man Without a Country," but the later Bluebird release, "The Savage," is running it close, while the thousand foot "Cub" comedies have a special appeal to Midland exhibitors.

Potteries.

At the Majestic, Stoke, "The Spy," "Flames," "The Building of the British Empire," "The Lion's Lair," and "A Trip to the Moon," are being screened.

At the Empire, Hanley, Manager Ketteman is attracting tremendous business with "The Grey Ghost." "Monica's Past," and "Milestones."

Reading.

At the Vaudeville Electric Theatre this week's films will include "The Family Honour" and "The Stolen Treaty," from Monday to Wednesday, and "The Crystal Gazer," "The Sign of the Cross," and Charlie Chaplin in "1 a.m.," from Thursday to Saturday.

Fields of Honour.

Irvin S. Cobb, the American author and humorist, who is at present in London, has been contributing some characteristic articles to the papers. He is a member of the advisory board of the Goldwyn Pictures Corporation of New York, who are filming a story of his, "Fields of Honour," with Mae Marsh as the heroine.

Famous Players Director.

I am sorry to have to record the death of Joseph Kaufman, director for Famous Players, and founder of the Motion Picture Directors' Association. Mr. Kaufman was an American, born in Washington, D.C., in 1882, and was the husband of Miss Ethel Clayton. He had also recently been directing Clara Kimball Young in "Shirley Kaye," a coming select picture.

FILMLANDER.

"THE MYSTERY OF THE DOUBLE CROSS."

WHO IS THE MASKED STRANGER?

Production ..... Pathé
Stars ..... Molly King and Leon Barry
Length ..... Fifteen Episodes

Yet another serial by Pathé was screened in their Roof Garden Theatre on Monday. Pretty Molly King is the star, and successfully undertakes the double rôle of Philippa Brewster and her twin sister. The story concerns Peter Hale, who by his father's will is to marry a girl bearing the brand of the double cross upon her arm. Hale meets the girl and falls in love with her, but although she occasionally responds to his love, at other times she is icy cold towards him. Hale's enemy, Bindgey Bentley, tries in various ways to effect his death, but his plans are always frustrated by a mysteriously masked stranger. Later, when things have become very complicated, the mystery is explained by the stranger, who turns out to be Philippa's twin sister, both babies having been branded with a cross and brought up separately. Finally Hale is married to the girl of the double cross, and Brewster rejoices in the possession of a long-lost daughter. This serial is suitable for any audience.

"THE LUST OF THE AGES."

CONTAINING SOME NOVEL EFFECTS IN SUB-TITLING.

Production ..... Ogden Picture Corporation
Star ..... Lilian Walker
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Five Parts
Distributors ..... Phillips Film Co.

Beautifully produced and combining fine acting with a novel plot, "The Lust of the Ages," produced at the Marble Arch Pavilion on Friday, is one of the finest films yet produced. The story deals with the influence of money over man through the various ages. Lois Craig is engaged to Bryon Masters, but is compelled to terminate the engagement owing to Masters' love of gold. Before leaving she asks him to read her latest book, which will explain the reason why they never could be happy together. As visualised in the film, the story takes us to the Valley of Contentment, where all is happiness till the valley is invaded by the Army of Mammon, and the inhabitants taken prisoners. Then the book turns to a later period in history and pictures a king who taxes his subjects to extremity in order that he may raise sufficient money for a world war. Although his daughter attempts to defeat his purpose, it is in vain, and she and her lover pay the price with their lives. Masters finishes the book, and, his better self awakened, he hurries to Lois to assure her that he is money mad no longer. Lilian Walker is the star, and plays her various rôles with great charm.

"THE WOMAN IN WHITE."

FILM ADAPTATION OF WILKIE COLLINS'S FAMOUS NOVEL.

Production ..... Thanhouser
Star ..... Florence La Bodie
Type ..... Drama
Length ..... Six Acts

On Monday morning a well-attended trade show of the cinema version of this well-known and exciting novel of crime and mystery was given at the West-end Cinema, and was acclaimed by popular verdict. The pictures are remarkably clearly defined and graphic illustrations of the incidents of the story, and lighting and colour effects enhance their artistic value. The awesome air of mystery which pervades the pictures recalls to mind Hood's description of the haunted house—"O'er all there hung the shadow of a fear." These pictures will appeal to all of an imaginative turn of mind who like their dramatic fare highly spiced and sensational. The scene of the fire in the church and the rescue of the scorched body of the imposter, Glyde, are very impressive incidents, and are the prelude to a happy ending. Besides the excellent acting of Florence La Bodie, who doubles the part of "the woman in white," Ann Catherick, and Laura Fairlie, Margaret Dallas makes an arresting figure of Marion. Richard Neil and Arthur Bower are most natural as the sinister schemers Glyde and Fosco.

Mr. Eliot Stannard, who is the son of John Strange Winter, will deliver a lecture on "Scenarios" to the members of the S.P.T. Club at the Stoll Picture Theatre on Friday evening, April 5.

Mr. Thomas Sapt, editor of the "Kinematograph Weekly," has promised to take the chair.

ONE OF THE BIG THINGS OF THE YEAR.

"THE PRICE OF A GOOD TIME."

Starring MILDRED HARRIS. (Jewel.)

IN AMERICA THE CROWD BROKE DOWN THE THEATRE DOORS IN THEIR FRANTIC EAGERNESS TO SEE IT.

IN THIS COUNTRY THE COMING OF THE PICTURE HAS BEEN AWAITED WITH KEEN INTEREST AND EXPECTANCY BY THE WHOLE TRADE.

This splendid production is a unique combination of the dramatic and the clean. The central episode in it—the poor shop-girl's six evenings' "peep" into "life"—is worked up with extraordinary power to an intense climax, and in itself has the makings of half a dozen first-class dramas.

IN "THE PRICE OF A GOOD TIME" THE FAMOUS PRODUCER, LOIS WEBER, HAS LEFT HER PREVIOUS BEST WORK FAR BEHIND.

FOR QUALITY, PHOTOGRAPHY, ACTING, SCENERY, & GENERAL TECHNICAL PERFECTION NOTHING SO FINE HAS YET BEEN SEEN IN A PICTURE.

ALL INQUIRIES TO—

The "IDEAL" Film Renting Co., Ltd.

76-78, WARDOUR STREET, W.1.

The BLINDNESS of FORTUNE

A Hepworth Feature presenting a powerful story produced in their usual finished style.

Starring

CHRISSIE WHITE, LIONELLE HOWARD, VIOLET HOPSON.

A TRADE SHOW

will be given at THE

WEST END CINEMA

on

FRIDAY, MARCH 22

At 11.15 a.m. prompt.

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COMING FILM TRADE SHOWS.

LONDON.

Cupid's Round-up (Fox), Super Cinema, 11 a.m., March 20.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), Pathé Roof Garden Theatre, 103-9, Wardour-st., 2.30 p.m., March 20.
Civilisation (Ward's Films), Shaftesbury Pavilion, 10.45 a.m., March 20.
Good-bye (Butcher), New Gallery Kinema, 11.30 a.m., March 20.
The Tenderfoot (Vitagraph), West End Cinema, 11.30 a.m., March 20.
Mysteries of the Castle of Malmort (L.I.F.T.), West End Cinema, 10.30 a.m., March 21.
Poppy (Gaumont), New Gallery Kinema, Regent-street, 11.15 a.m., March 22.
Blindness of Fortune (U. K. Photoplays), West End Cinema, 11.15 a.m., March 22.
Mysteries of Myra (F.B.O.), Alhambra, 3 p.m., March 22.
The Bride of Hate Knight of the Trail, Their Weak Moments (Triangle), Electric Pavilion, Shaftesbury-avenue, W. 1, 11 a.m., March 22.
The Price of a Good Time (Ideal), West End Cinema, 11 a.m., March 26.
The Heart of a Lion (Fox), Alhambra, 2.30 p.m., March 26.
A Heart's Revenge, Shadows of Her Past (Fox), Super Cinema, 11 a.m., March 27.
Over the Hill (Pathé), Pathé Roof Garden Theatre, 103-9, Wardour-st., 2.30 p.m., March 27.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), Pathé Roof Garden Theatre, 103-9, Wardour-street, 2.30 p.m., April 3.
Torment (L.I.F.T.), West-End Cinema, 11 a.m., April 3.

BELFAST.

Poppy (Gaumont), Panopticon, High-st., 11.15 a.m., March 20.
Adventures of Carol (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 11.15 a.m., March 21.
Conqueror of Death, Scattered Leaves (L.I.F.T.), Panopticon, 11 a.m., March 22.

BIRMINGHAM.

The Admirable Crichton (Jury's), Picture House, 11 a.m., March 20.
Waifs, A Square Deal, His Rise and Tumble (Triangle), The Scala Theatre, 11 a.m., March 20.
The Scarlet Car (Ideal), Scala, 11 a.m., March 21.
Du Barry (Fox), Picture House, 11 a.m., March 22.
The Price Mark—The Son of His Father (Walker), Scala, 11 a.m., March 22.
Co-Respondent (Granger), Scala, 3 p.m., March 24.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 303, Broad-street, 6 p.m., March 24.
Jacko's Secret, The Slave (L.I.F.T.), Picture House, 11 a.m., March 26.
Stolen Honour, Damaged No Goods (Fox), Scala, 11 a.m., March 26.
Woman in White (Thanhouser), New-street Picture House, 11 a.m., March 27.
The Price of a Good Time (Ideal) Scala, 4 p.m., March 31.
The Bride of Hate, Knight of the Trail, Their Weak Moments (Triangle), Scala Theatre 11 a.m., April 3.
Over the Hill (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 303, Broad-st., 6 p.m., April 7.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 303, Broad-street, 6 p.m., April 14.

BRISTOL.

Scarlet Car (Ideal), Palace, 11 a.m., March 20.

CARDIFF.

Poppy (Gaumont), Central Cinema, 11.30 a.m., March 20.
Spindle of Life (Gaumont), Own Theatre, 2.30 p.m., March 19; 11.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., March 22.
Unknown 274 (Fox), Cardiff Cinema, 11 a.m., March 22.
The Flame of the Yukon (Western Import), Castle Cinema, 11.15 a.m., March 22.
Call of the East—The Narrow Trail (Walker), 16, Priory-street, 11 a.m., March 22.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 13, Charles-street, 11.30 a.m. and 3 p.m., March 26.
Du Barry (Fox), Cardiff Cinema, 11 a.m., March 27.
The Mystery of the Double Cross (Pathé), Castle Cinema, 11 a.m., March 27 and 28.
Over the Hill (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 13, Charles-st., 11.30 a.m. and 3 p.m., April 2.
The Bride of Hate Knight of the Trail, Their Weak Moments (Triangle), Principality Buildings, Priory-street, 11 a.m., April 2.
Society's Driftwood (Granger), Cardiff Cinema, 11 a.m., April 5.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 13, Charles-street, 11.30 a.m. and 3 p.m., April 9.
Co-Respondent (Granger), Cardiff Cinema, 11 a.m., April 26.

DUBLIN.

Poppy (Gaumont), Pillar Picture House, 11.30 a.m., March 22.
Co-Respondent (Granger), Carlton Cinema, 11 a.m., April 19.

GLASGOW.

The Admirable Crichton (Jury's), Picture House, 11 a.m., March 20.
The Mystery of the Double Cross (Pathé), King's Cinema, Sauchiehall-st., 11 a.m., March 19 and 20.
The Greatest Wish in the World (Argosy), Cranston's, 11 a.m., March 20.
The Seamaster (Sc. Ex. Cont.), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., March 20.
Maternity (St. Mungo), Own Theatre, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., March 20
The Greatest Wish in the World (Argosy), Own Theatre, 3 p.m., March 20.
I Will Repay (Ruffells), Salon, 11.15 a.m., March 21.
If Thou Wert Blind (Square), La Scala, March 21, 22, 23.
Co-Respondent (Granger), Scala, 11 a.m., March 21.
Over the Hill (Pathé), Cranston's Picture House, 11 a.m., March 22.
Nina the Flower Girl, Double Crossed, Her Sugar Baby (Triangle), 182, Trongate, March 22.
Du Barry (Fox), Grand Con. Pic. House, 11 a.m., March 25.
For Liberty (Fox), Grand Con. Pic. House, 11 a.m., March 26.
The Slave and Jacko's Secret (L.I.F.T.), Cranston's, 11 a.m., March 28.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), Cranston's Picture House, 11 a.m., March 29.
The Flame of the Yukon (Triangle), New Savoy Theatre, 11 a.m., April 2.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), Cranston's Picture House, 11 a.m., April 5.

LEEDS.

Poppy (Gaumont), Theatre de Luxe, Kirkgate, 11 a.m., March 20.
The Splendid Coward (Harma), Briggate P.H., 10.45 a.m., March 20.
Little Miss Fortune (Premier), City Cinema, 11 a.m., March 20.
Stolen Honour (Fox), Grand Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., March 21.
Damaged No Goods (Fox), Grand Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., March 21.
The Slave—Jacko's Secret (L.I.F.T.), Picture House, 11 a.m., March 22.
Pots and Pans Peggy (Thanhouser), 29, Guildford-street, 2.45 p.m., March 22.
Jacko's Secret, The Slave (L.I.F.T.), Picture House, Briggate, 11 a.m., March 22.
Co-Respondent (Granger), City Picture House, 11 a.m., March 26.
The Mystery of the Double Cross (Pathé), The City Cinema, Boar-lane, 10.30 a.m., March 27 and 28.
Cupid's Round-up (Fox), Grand Assembly Rooms, 11 a.m., March 28.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), City Cinema, Boar-lane, 11 a.m., April 9.
The Mother Instinct, Dakota Dan, His Social Rise (Triangle), Bond Place Chambers, Infirmary-street, 11 a.m., April 2 and 5.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), City Cinema, Boar-lane, 11 a.m., April 16.

LIVERPOOL.

The Mother Instinct, Dakota Dan, His Social Rise (Triangle), The Scala, Lime-street, March 20.
Poppy (Gaumont), City Picture House, 11 a.m., March 20.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 34, Paradise-st., 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., March 19 and 22.
On Trial (F.B.O.), City P.H., 11 a.m., March 22.
Jack and Jill—Down to Earth (Walker), Scala, 11 a.m., March 22.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 34, Paradise street, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., March 26.
Cupid's Round-up (Fox), Scala Super Cinema, 11 a.m., March 26.
Waifs, A Square Deal, His Rise and Tumble (Triangle), The Scala, Lime-street, 11 a.m., April 3.
The Flame of the Yukon (Western Import), The Scala, Lime-street, 10.45 a.m., April 4.
Over the Hill (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 34, Paradise-st., 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., April 9 and 12.

MANCHESTER.

Pots and Pans Peggy (Thanhouser), Oxford Picture House, 11 a.m., March 20.
Jacko's Secret, The Slave (L.I.F.T.), Picture House, 10.45 a.m., March 20.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Deansgate, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., March 20 and 21.
Good-bye (Butcher), Deansgate P.H., 11.30 a.m., March 22.
The Dream That Came True (Phillips), Market-street Picture House, 11 a.m., March 22.
Cupid's Round-up (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., March 21 and 22.
The Flame of the Yukon (Western Import), The Picture House, Oxford-street, 10.45 a.m., March 27.
The Heart of a Lion (Fox), Grosvenor Picture House, 11 a.m., March 27.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Deansgate, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., March 27 and 28.
A Heart's Revenge (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., March 28 and 29.
Waifs, A Square Deal, His Rise and Tumble (Triangle), Triangle House, Deansgate, 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m., April 2, 4, 5.
Over the Hill (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Deansgate, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., April 10 and 11.

NEWCASTLE.

For Liberty (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 11 a.m., March 20.
Law and Order, The Marriage Speculation (Jury's), Own Theatre, 11 a.m., March 20.
Nina the Flower Girl, Double Crossed, Her Sugar Baby (Triangle), 26, Northumberland-street, March 20.
Over the Hill (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Bigg Market, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., March 20.
Over the Hill (Pathé), 15, Bigg-market, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., March 20.
Jack and Jill—Down to Earth (Walker), Cross House, 11 a.m., March 22.
Co-Respondent (Granger), New Pavilion, 11.30 a.m., March 22.
Stolen Honour, Damaged No Goods (Fox), Fox Private Theatre, 11 a.m., March 27.
Hands Up! Horns and Hoofs, A Dishonest Burglar (Triangle) 26, Northumberland-street, 11 a.m., April 3.
The Mystery of the Double Cross (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Bigg Market, 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m., April 5.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Bigg Market, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., April 10.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), Pathé Theatre, 15, Bigg Market, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., April 17.
The Flame of the Yukon (Triangle), Pavilion, Westgate-street, 11 a.m., April 25.

NOTTINGHAM.

Society's Driftwood (Granger), Scala, 11 a.m., March 22.
Society's Driftwood (Granger), Scala, 11 a.m., March 22.
The Price of a Good Time (Ideal), Goldsmith-street Picture Palace, 11 a.m., March 27.
Co-Respondent (Granger), Scala, 11 a.m., April 12.

SHEFFIELD.

Du Barry (Fox), Electra Picture Palace, 11 a.m., March 20.
Her Beloved Enemy (Thanhouser), Picture Palace, Union-street, Moorhead, 11 a.m., March 20.
Poppy (Gaumont), Electra Palace, 11 a.m., March 22.
If Thou Wert Blind (Premier), Union P.P., 11 a.m., March 22
Stolen Honour, Damaged No Goods (Fox), Clayton's Bioscope, 11 a.m., March 22.
The Mystery of the Double Cross (Pathé), Picture Palace, Union-street, 10.30 a.m., March 26.
The Flower of Faith (Pathé), Clayton's Bioscope Theatre, Norfolk-st., 11 a.m., April 8.
Thou Shalt Not— (The Mark of Cain) (Pathé), Clayton's Bioscope Theatre, Norfolk-st., 11 a.m., April 15.

TRADE SHOW

— AT —

SHAFTESBURY PAVILION

— ON —

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27,

PRINCESS VIRTUE

— FEATURING —

MAE MURRAY.

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FILM MARKINGS.

For the benefit of Exhibitors in London and the Provinces who are booking their programmes solely on our markings, we are in future giving further details. We would point out that the markings allotted to films in this section are given on their relative drawing power to showmen :—

Reference No. .. .. 6—10.

Suit high-class audience.....A | Suit sensational audience C
Suit average audience.....B | Suit any audience .....D

OPEN MARKET.

Released.	Name.	Brand.	Description.	Feet.	Marks.	Suitability.
April 1 ..	Seed Planting	Transatlantic	Interest	497	8	D
April 29 ..	Stowaway's Strategy ..	Vitagraph	Comedy	856	6¾	B
May 2 ..	The Actor's Camouflage ..	Vitagraph	Comedy	864	7¾	B
May 6 ..	Ambrose's Icy Love	L.-Ko	Farce-Comedy	1122	6¾	B
May 6 ..	All Aboard	Transatlantic	Comedy	1122	6¾	D
May 9 ..	Herself	Transatlantic	Drama	1100	8	B
May 9 ..	The Trans-Atlantic Screen Magazine	Transatlantic	Interest	600	8	D
May 9 ..	Cave Man Stuff	Transatlantic	Comedy	879	6¾	B
May 9 ..	A World of Mischief ..	Kineto	Interest	470	7	D
	EXCLUSIVES.					
April — ..	The Substitute	Thanhouser-Lubin	Comedy	2000	8½	B
June 13 ..	His Rise and Tumble ..	Billikin	Comedy	1003	7	D
July 4 ..	Jack and Jill	Lasky	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	B
July 6 ..	The Mystery of the Double Cross	Pathé	Serial	15 Epis'd's	8½	B
July 11 ..	Damaged No Goods	Fox-Sunshine	Comedy	2000	8¾	B
July 15 ..	Stolen Honour	Fox	Drama	5000	8¾	B
July 15 ..	Waifs	Triangle	Drama	5000	10	A.B.
July 15 ..	Down to Earth	Walker's-Art Craft	Comedy	5000	8¾	B
July 20 ..	In the Balance	Vitagraph	Drama	5000	8¾	D
Aug. 1 ..	A Square Deal	W'stn Imp'rt	Drama	2000	8	D
Aug. 22 ..	Lust of Ages	Phillips'-Ogden	Drama	5000	9	A
Aug. 26 ..	Oh! that Kiss	Urban	Comedy	3000	8¾	A
Aug. 26 ..	On Trial	Essanay	Drama	7000	9¾	B
Sept. — ..	Snap Judgment	Bolton's	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	D
Sept. — ..	Pots and Pans Peggy ..	Thanhouser	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	D
Sept. 9 ..	I Will Repay	Ruffell's-Jewel	Drama	5000	8¾	C.B.
Sept. 15 ..	The Torrent	Urban Eclipse	Drama	5000	9¾	A
Oct. — ..	Woman in White	Thanhouser	Drama	6000	8¾	B
Released ..	God's Man	Mrs. J. D. Walker	Drama	5000	8¾	D
Not known	Streets of Illusion	Pathé	Comedy-Drama	5000	9	D
Not known	The Fibbers	Essanay	Comedy-Drama	5000	8¾	D
Not known	The Rainbow Box	Essanay-Pan Feature	Comedy	2000	8¾	D

Several professional artistes found their way to the Balham Assembly Rooms on Wednesday last, and assisted valuably at a St. Patrick's Festival Entertainment. Miss Rita Vivian, of the Beecham Opera ballet, called in on her way to Drury Lane to give a couple of fascinating dances, and returned late on in the evening to enchant the audience with an eloquent realisation of "The Dying Swan." Her accompaniments were cleverly played by Master James Bickmore. A droll quarter of an hour was spent in the company of Mr. George O'Hagen, a comedian whose absence from revue it is difficult to understand. Miss Marie Wilkinson was encored for her singing, and Miss Marie Cox only escaped similar honours for her recitation of "The Highwayman" through pressure of time. Miss Ella Griffiths also pleased with her singin gof "Where My Caravan has Rested."

MELODYLAND.

B. Feldman and Co.

"Where the Black-eyed Susans Grow" had an artistic setting at the Coliseum last week, where Clarice Mayne and "That," supported by their clever juvenile chorus, scored a very effective hit with the song. The enthusiasm reached a high pitch during the performance.

Manny and Roberts are drawing continued applause for "I Miss the Old Folks Now," and are also doing fine work with "Mama's Blues," a new and smartly-written number.

Lovers of the real ballad will welcome three numbers just issued by B. Feldman and Co. Titles and writers as follows :—"Waiting in the West" (Ed. Lockton and Kenneth Wynne), "When I Welcome You Back Some Day" (Ed. Lockton and Kenneth Wynne), and "God Give You Sunshine" (Ed. Lockton and E. K. Colton). These are unquestionably three of the finest ballad numbers before the public at the present time.

"Bing Boys on Broadway," "Yes, Uncle!" and "Arlette," constitute a trio of winners which cannot be excelled in London at the present time. The music for all three productions is published by B. Feldman and Co., who are associated with several other excellent musical plays, which will be submitted to the public shortly.

Herman Darewski Co.

At West Hartlepool Empire, last week, dainty Emilie Hayes' success with her new song, "That Little Quaker Meeting House," was little short of phenomenal. She will be making this her principal number for many months to come. As a concert party item it has already been decided upon by all the leading proprietors and producers, including Fred Allandale (Blackpool), Harry Benet (Blackpool), Alvin Sawyer (Largs), Will Catlin (Scarborough), John Wilshere (Harrogate), and others too numerous to mention.

A fine new "cowboy" number, entitled "In the Far Nor' West," has been added to the Darewski summer selection of songs. This number, which Edie Day will shortly introduce to London audiences, is a worthy successor to the same firm's world-famous "Arizona."

The Darewski house offer four very fine comedy items for concert party work this season, professional copies of all of which are now ready. These include the most popular American song of the year, "Where Do We Go From Here?" Alfred Lester's recent Alhambra hit, "It's a Hard, Hard World"; Captain Arthur Eliot's comedy topical song, "If the World Went the Other Way Round"; and Gitz Rice's fine song, written in the trenches of France, "I Want To Go Home."

Lawrence Wright Co.

The Lawrence Wright Company are receiving each day more convincing testimony of the big success they have secured in the new ballad by Worton David and Horatio Nicholls, "The Heart of a Rose," and each artiste, as they produce it, writes of the wonderful reception the number receives from all audiences. It is now being sung by all the biggest artistes, and we should advise all those ballad vocalists who are now fixing up their repertoire for the summer season to go to the Palladium and hear Miss Amy Evans, the renowned Welsh singer, who has just added it to her repertoire. Another artiste to produce this number this week is Miss Wynne Hulme, who scored a great success with this number on Monday evening at Chiswick. This artiste has also been working the big 1918 ballad, "The End of the Journey," for the past few weeks. Miss Ethel Hook, writing to the firm from the Hippodrome, Leeds, this week, says that "The Heart of a Rose" is going tremendously there this week.

DEATH OF C. W. POOLE.

The death of Alderman Charles W. Poole, on Tuesday, March 12, removes a well-known and popular personality in the entertainment world. Born at Malmesbury, Wiltshire, on March 30, 1858, deceased, with his four brothers, Messrs. Joseph, George, Harry, and Fred Poole, became associated at an early age with the entertainment which has become celebrated throughout the kingdom. Acquiring the Albert Hall in about the year 1894, Mr. C. W. Poole effected a transformation of its interior. His staff of artistes engaged on the production of panoramas, &c., was located at that place of amusement until, later on, he became the owner of the disused Methodist New Connexion Chapel in Worcester-street, which was converted into a studio, studios being also maintained in London, at Brighton, Malmesbury, and King's Lynn. After the purchase of the Albert Hall, Mr. Poole found the business increase so rapidly that he decided to take up his residence in Gloucester; and in March, 1897, he became the owner of Wotton Lawn, and came there to reside. Subsequently Mr. Poole took over the Theatre Royal, Westgate-street, and in due course it became the Palace Theatre of Varieties, returning later to its original purpose as the home of the "legitimate drama." As managing director of Pooles Theatres, Ltd., Mr. Poole was at the time of his death actively identified with the control of places of entertainment at Stourbridge, Treherbert, and Porth, as well as Gloucester, besides running the myrioramas, and he was also chairman of directors of the Barnsley Empire, Ltd.

The funeral took place in Barnswood Churchyard on Friday, when there was a large gathering of private and professional friends.

Mr. Frank Gerald, who has represented Messrs. Bert Bailey and Co., of the King's Theatre, Melbourne, for so long in this country, asks us to state that all communications regarding the forthcoming visit of Mr. Bailey and his company to this country with "On Our Selection" and other plays, should be addressed to him, c/o Messrs. David Allen and Sons, 17, Leicester-street, W.C. 2.

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VARIETY CARDS.

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This Week, HAMMERSMITH. Next, PALACE, PLYMOUTH.

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Both numbers by CHARLES WILMOTT and ARTHUR L. KLEIN.

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INSTRUMENTS FOR FIGHTING MUSICIANS.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE ERA."

Sir,—Hundreds of the men now fighting for us are musicians, amateur or expert; thousands crave diversion in their leisure moments, and turn hungrily to music of any sort. Musical instruments, other than in official bands, are few and far between in all the Expeditionary Forces and in mine-sweepers.

An organisation has, therefore, been formed for the collection of all sorts of instruments. H.R.H. the Prince of Wales has graciously sent it a donation and a message of encouragement, and it is sanctioned and warmly approved by Sir Edward Ward, Director-General of Voluntary Organisations.

There are probably thousands of instruments in the country—mouth-organs, accordions, concertinas, flutes, violins, zithers, banjos, &c.—which are seldom or never used. They would be of tremendous value in the months to come, and we ask your readers to send as many as they can collect to the London Depot, 8-9, Denman-st., Piccadilly, London, W., or to notify us of their existence, so that we may send for them.—Yours faithfully,

CLARA NOVELLO DAVIES,
Hon. Organiser.
8-9, Denman-street, Piccadilly, W.1.
March 15, 1918.

VARIETY CARDS.

These cards are inserted at 36/- for thirteen issues (small space) of "The Era."

IMPORTANT TO ARTISTES.

Additions and Corrections to these Cards must reach us not later than Tuesday, 1 p.m.

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The Original Jolly Dutch Girl. "Cute and sassy."
HIPPO., RICHMOND. All coms. to Business Manager,
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WILL VAN ALLEN
COMEDIAN WITH SOME MUSIC.
HIPPODROME, RICHMOND.

FRANK POWELL
CHARACTER PATTER COMEDIAN **Always working.**
This Week, EMPIRE, GLASGOW. Next, REGENT TH., SALFORD.
Agent, WALTER BENTLEY.

Mr. HYMACK
"'AT BOGEY VILLA' is as perplexing as ever. There is no need to speculate how the changes of costume are worked. It is sufficient to remark that he has no competitors in his line."—BIRMINGHAM DISPATCH, July 10.

Address: This week, c/o "The Era."

The Celebrated RONEZ QUARTETTE
Are appearing this week at
FINSBURY PARK,
Where—although opening the Show owing to scenery difficulties—they are meeting with great success.
It is to be hoped that Managers and Agents will appreciate the above circumstances.
VACANT APRIL 15—West of England preferred. BEAUTIFUL OWN SETTING.

SUTHER
THE ACT THE PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT.
HIPPODROME, POPLAR.
TALENT AND NOVELTY.—Vide Press

LUCILLE BENSTEAD
THE AUSTRALIAN SOPRANO.
This Week, PALACE, HALIFAX.

ROY DOVE
THE GARRULOUS JUGGLEDIAN.
OLYMPIA, PARIS.
Sole Business Representative, MR. E. ROTTEMBOURG, 97, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

As Rifleman Fred Evans, late 1st. Surrey Rifles.

THE MAN WHO CAN BREAK RECORDS.
PIMPLE
Great Britain's Premier Film Comedian.
THE MAN WHO CAN MAKE GOOD ON BOTH SCREEN AND STAGE.
Now Touring the Provinces.
ALL COMS. TO THE ONE AND ONLY
LEW LAKE

TOM **WATERS** AND **MORRIS** EDDIE
"FATHER AND SON."
March 25, EDINBURGH.
All Coms. EDELSTEN & BURNS.

TOM GOTT
THAT YORKSHIRE FELLOW.
IN DAME CHARACTER STUDIES.
This Week, HIPPO., RICHMOND.

LILY EYTON
SYNDICATE TOUR.
This Week, SOUTH LONDON. Next, EAST HAM.

Takeo & Koma NAMBA
Japanese
Eccentric Entertainers.
IN AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFERING.
This, PALACE, CHELSEA.
Next, SYNDICATE.
Agents, EDELSTEN and BURNS.

WILKIE BARD
EMPIRE, ISLINGTON.

Miss HETTY KING
Wishes to notify all that her sole business arrangements are in the hands of Mr. HARRY DAY, of Effingham House, Arundel Street, Strand, to whom all communications must be addressed.

RAPIDLY RISING TO FAME.
MAY SHERRARD
THE NEW-STYLE COMEDIENNE.
PRINCE'S THEATRE, BRADFORD, for run of Pantomime.
Coms., N.V.A., 18, CHARING CROSS ROAD.

ALFREDO
Mar. 25, EMPIRE, HACKNEY. April 1, HULL.

MISS HOPE CHARTERIS
THE AUSTRALIAN SOPRANO.
This Week. PORTSMOUTH.
All Coms. W. H. PRICE, ASHTON'S Royal Agency, 33, Old Bond Street, W.

FORD and TRULY
(CHUMS IN VAUDEVILLE).
Featuring "TRULY" the ONLY Mimic Dog.
This Week, PALACE, HULL.
All coms., GEO. BARCLAY.

COMEDIAN AND DANCER. In all New Songs.
JACK SMILES
This Week, HIPPO., LOWESTOFT. VACANT, March 25.
All Coms., 11, Woodville Road, Leytonstone, E. 11.

LE PREMIER SENSATIONAL CHAIR BALANCING ACT
Betancourt
BET-AN-COURT
THE FRENCH CUBAN
Introducing a REFINED and ORIGINAL style of new comedy.
All invited to see it.
Mar. 11, EMPIRE, LEEDS
" 18, HIPPO, SOUTHEND.
" 25, HIPPO., SOUTHAMPTON. Continent to follow. Only a few vacancies for 1918.
Coms. direct or Agents.
Many thanks to B. Sherek for dates with Moss, Controlling and Gulliver to 1920.

GUS OXLEY
PRINCIPAL COMEDIAN.
Rehearsing new Revue.
131, Clapham Road, London, S.W.

MARIE LOFTUS
GOING STRONG.
TERRIFIC SUCCESS EVERYWHERE.
Agents: EDELSTEN AND BURNS.
P.A., Lindenau, 99, Tulse Hill, S.W.

HENRY J. CORNER
Presents
"SYMPHONIA."
This Week, PALACE, BARROW. Next, EMPIRE, GLASGOW.

Three SISTERS O'HARA
The "GREAT TYPE" Entertainers.
EMPIRE, HACKNEY.
Agent, CHAS. HAND.

HORACE JONES
THE MAN WHO PUT THE BUTTER INTO "BUTTERCUPS."
GRAND, CLAPHAM.

"Roses and Radishes, Pansies and Peas."
NIXON GREY
COMEDIAN.
This Week, EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL. Next, EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.

EDIE VENO
CAMBERWELL.
All Coms., LEW LAKE, 1a, Southampton Row, W.C.

MARY MAYFREN
"THE WOMAN OF LOUVAIN."
LEWISHAM.
All Coms.—WALTER BENTLEY.

NITA CRYSTAL
CONCLUDED PRINCIPAL GIRL, BRIXTON THEATRE.
AT LIBERTY FOR
Soubrettes Leads, Musical Comedy, Revue. 11, Hampstead Gardens, Golder's Green.

DOROTHY LEVEY
CHARMING VOCALIST.
ON TOUR.

THE DUGARDES
Presenting their Original and Refined Musical and Dancing Speciality.
Coms., 19, Albion Street, New Brighton, Cheshire.

HARRY SHIELS
STARRING IN OWN SKETCH, **BILL IN A FIX.**
THE GREATEST LAUGHING HIT OF THE WAR.
ON TOUR.
New Sketch "CHEATING OF CROOKS," will be produced shortly.
All Coms., c/o "The Era."

SAMMY SHIELDS
THE MERRY SCOT.
This Week, NEW CROSS EMPIRE. Next, EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

BEN BONNY AND TAYLOR BROWNING
In P. T. SELBIT'S production.

NEIL GOW
The Scottish Comedian.
This Week, NORTHAMPTON.
Next, HIPPO., BRISTOL.
HENSCHEL'S AGENCY, 26, Charing Cross Road, W.C.2.

RICH. HAYES
JUGGLIST.
Dear FRED DUPREZ,—Did you hear of my success at the Coliseum? I closed the show and CAUSED a RIOT.
Business Manager - - - - B. MONTAGUE.

FRED DUPREZ
(MR. MANHATTAN)

SAYS :—
Alan Young the Manager of The Palace, Manchester, asked me why I played the Hippo. instead of his house. I told him it was closer to the Hotel.
This Week (by the sad sea waves), **HIPPO., BRIGHTON.**
P.S.—Dear Rich. Hayes, "No, I can't say that I did!" F.D.

LUCY BRENNAN
CHARACTER COMEDIENNE.
Enormous Success of "A SOLDIER'S WIFE," by Fred Austin.
This Week, PALACE, TOTTENHAM.
Next, EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
All coms. - - - WHITEMAN'S AGENCY, LEEDS.

JOHN LESTER and "HIS."
SOUTH AFRICA.
Coms., L.V.T.A., or EMPIRE, JOHANNESBURG.

A MUSICAL ACT AND YET NOT A MUSICAL ACT.
THE CAVENDISH FOUR
IN TUNEFUL TRIOS & TOPICAL TWADDLE.
March 18, HIPPO., DERBY. March 25, HOLBORN EMPIRE.
Coms., 65, Margaret Street, W. 1.

This Week, EMPIRE, SHEFFIELD.

A HEALTHY CHILD OF REEVES.
THE ONLY
TALBOT O'FARRELL
NO VACANCIES - - - 1918.
SOLE AGENTS-F&H REEVES.

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Starring Macnaghten Tour. All coms., NORRIS & CLAYTON.

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WEEK COMMENCING 25TH MARCH, 1918

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6.10 and 9.
Telephone 5367-8-9 HOLBORN.

ERNIE LOTINGA
& CO. in
"WANTED, A WIFE."

PERCY HONRI
ANNA DOROTHY
MAGGIE BENSON
LILIAN BYRNE
BARLEYCORN PLAYERS
HOLSON & BERT
and
MARY MAYFREN
& CO. in
"THE WOMAN OF LOUVAIN."

MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30

Box Office 10 to 10.

PALLADIUM

BEATIE & BABS — AMY EVANS — ERNIE MAYNE
JAY LAURIER — MALCOLM SCOTT — MARIE DAINTON
HILDA GLYDER — FRANCIS & ALFRED — 4 SILVIOS
OLLY OAKLEY TRIO

THREE PERFORMANCES DAILY OF THE FULL VARIETY PROGRAMME.

2.30. 6.10. 9.0.

Telephones: 1004 GERRARD (4 lines). Box Office 10 to 10. Telegrams: PALLADIUM, WESDOE, London.

LEWISHAM HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. LEE GREEN 26.

HARRY CHAMPION
S.W. WYNDHAM
MOUNTEBANKS
DAINTY DORIS
ALEC KENDAL
DUSTY RHODES
PHIL RALLIS TRIO
CAVENDISH FOUR
MILDRED MAUD

War Savings Certificates will be given free at each performance, Monday to Thursday.

HAMMERSMITH PALACE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HAMMERSMITH 106.

GERTIE GITANA
FARR & FARLAND
LOTTIE COLLINS
CARTER LIVESEY & CO.
CAMPBELL & SCOTT
FRED KEETON
ARTHUR GILROY
MAY KEARSLEY
JAN McLEAN

CAMBERWELL PALACE
6.30 and 9.
Tel. HOP 1095.

HARRY DAY
presents
"PLEASURE BOUND,"
featuring
JOS. ALEXANDRE
CHAS. CHILDERSTONE
FLORENCE WILLIAMS
GEORGE SPRY
NORA DWYER

WILL VAN ALLEN
GEO. NEWBURN
THE VIOLAS

GRAND PALACE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION
6.30 and 9.
Tel. BATTERSEA 88.

ANDREW EMM
presents
"ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE."

OLYMPIA, SHOREDITCH
6.30 and 9.
Tel. LONDON WALL 1628.

WILLIAM HENSHALL
presents
'THE KODAK GIRL,"
featuring
JEAN ALLISTONE
SYDNEY DE VRIES
NORA GUY
DICK HENDERSON
VIOLET PARRY
BASIL GREY

G. F. FORD
DICK TUBB
BORNEO GARDINER
KATIE HUGHES

ILFORD HIPPODROME
6.20 and 8.50.
Tel. ILFORD 716.

"WHERE'S THE CHICKEN ?"
featuring
BERT GILBERT
HOWARD V. CROPTON
HARRY GOULD
and
IVY RAY

O'GORMAN BROS.
SYD JAY
WEE GEORGIE HARRIS

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME
6.30 and 8.50.
Tel. WOOLWICH 69.

HARRY DAY
presents
"BUTTERCUPS,"
featuring
HORACE JONES
QUEENIE ESSEX
PETER McSWEENEY
DOROTHY VENTON
ALICE WYATT
NOBLETT
HARRY BROWN
MARJORIE FULTON

MATINEE THURSDAY at 2.30

CROYDON EMPIRE
6.30 and 8.50.
Tel. CROYDON 1174.

GILBERT HERON
& CO. in
"IN THE DARK."

DALE & O'MALLEY
EMERALD DUPREZ
LEO RAY
RED, WHITE & BLUE TROUPE
STANLINIS
COLBERT.
ERN E. ROMA
and
A GRAND AMATEUR CARNIVAL

ISLINGTON EMPIRE
6.30 and 9.
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E. TAYLOR-PLATT CO.
Present
"THE MAN WHO STAYED AT HOME."

POPLAR HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
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DOROTHY WEST SYMES CO.
present
"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE."

BALHAM HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Telephone STREATHAM 1708.

GUS ELEN
DAISY DORMER
HARRY CHAMPION
CHAS. WHITTLE
NELLA WEBB
GRAVETTAS
AMOOURGIS
and
BERT LLOYD & CO.
in "WHAT A PAL."

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. WILLESDEN 49.

FARR & FARLAND
LOUIE TINSLEY
THE ALTOS
DAISY GRIFF
TAYLOR & SUMMERS
PRINCESS IWA
MILLIE JILLSON
GRAND AMATEUR CARNIVAL
and
E. D. NICHOLLS
& CO. in
'IT'S UP TO YOU.'

PUTNEY HIPPODROME
6.30 and 9.
Tel. PUTNEY 2002.

WILSON HALLETT
SPENCE & JOCELYN
TOM LEAMORE
WALTINA
ETHEL LESLIE
MARION SCOTT
NETHA TANWAY
and
SYD WALKER
& CO. in
"Stolen Fruit."

KILBURN EMPIRE
6.30 and 9.
Telephone 698 PADDINGTON.

JULIEN WYLIE & J. W. TATE
present
WEE GEORGIE WOOD
in
"SOME DETECTIVE."
Cast also includes
MARTYN ROLAND
DOLLY HARMER PERCY RHODES

BERT WESTON
ALICE HOLLANDER
ORPHEUS
ISA WISE

MANAGING DIRECTOR Mr. CHARLES GULLIVER TO WHOM ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED.

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THREE LINES, ONE SHILLING.
EACH ADDITIONAL LINE, SIXPENCE.
NAME AND ADDRESS, SIXPENCE.

LONDON.

LONDON, W. 1.—Theatre Girls' Club, 59, Greek-st., Soho, W. 1, Cubicle and Full Board per week, 17s. 6d. and 21s. 6d.; small single room, 25s.; non-resident members also received; club subscription for one year, 2s. 6d.; open all Sunday; restaurant prices for non-residents dinner 10d., tea 4d., supper 6d. Apply SECRETARY.

W.C. — Russell-square. Stylish double bed-sitting rooms from 30s. (1 person), 40s. (2) per week; single rooms from 16s.; including breakfast, lights, and attendance. 78, Guilford-street.

PROVINCIAL.

SOUTHPORT.—MRS. JUPP, 26, Promenade.

SCENIC ADVERTISEMENTS.

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EACH ADDITIONAL LINE, SIXPENCE.

SCENIC ARTISTS WANTED.

WANTED, Good, Quick Scenic Artist; good shop for worker; own tools. Apply, ROBERTS, 4, New Wellington-st., Mill Hill, Blackburn.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a **Birth**, a **Marriage**, or a **Death**, or an "**In Memoriam**" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is **One Shilling and Sixpence.**
As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

DEATHS.

HORNER.—On the 14th inst., at Fir-grove, Todmorden-road, Burnley, in her 71st year, Mary Sarah, the dearly beloved wife of Mr. W. C. Horner, of the Victoria Opera House, and new Empire, Burnley. Was interred at the Burnley Cemetery Tuesday, March 19, 1918.

OHMY.—On Friday, March 15 Aida, the beloved daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Ohmy, circus proprietors at her residence, 40, Leicester-road, Blackpool, to the inexpressible grief of her sorrowing parents sisters, and a large circle of friends.

IN MEMORIAM.

LANGLEY.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband, Charles Langley, who passed away on March 17, 1911.—Jessie Price Langley.

POWELL. — Orlando Powell.—In loving memory of my darling, who passed away March 17, 1915. You are ever with me. God bless you, my loved one. Lillian.

MISS HELEN MAY'S PERFORMANCE.

Miss Helen May appeared herself and presented a number of her students in an interesting programme of dances at the Boudoir Theatre in Pembroke-gardens last week. On Monday, Miss May appeared with three of her pupils in a delicious ballet-pantomime, entitled "Le Domino Noir," in which some good emotional work was done by Misses Joan Luxton, Vera Hazel, and Doris Elkington. Of Miss May's solos, the best was probably the Chopin "Mazurka," a magnificently strong rhythmic interpretation. Very charming also were the two other Chopin studies, the Valse Variation and a delicate fragment entitled "Posies," which the audience was fortunate enough to get repeated. Miss Doris Elkington figured successfully in several mime-dances, and was particularly good in "The Rose and the Hoop" with Miss Joan Luxton.

AMUSEMENTS IN DURBAN.

DURBAN, Jan. 24.—Theatre Royal.—P., Mr. A. C. Madore.—Stephen Black, by arrangement with the African Theatre Trust, presents "The Hidden Plague" and "Damaged Goods," supported by Edward Vincent, Geo. Stillwell, Hilda Allenboro, Alma Vaughan, and Violet Ford. Criterion Theatre.—P., Criterion Theatres, Ltd.—This week's programme includes Bryant and Bryant, Australia's novelty manipulators; Peggy Pay, chic comedienne; George Glasspoole, baritone; and pictures.

MUSIC RECEIVED.

Songs from Enoch and Sons: "Fate's Discourtesy," "The Long White Road," "A Sailor's Love Song," "Buttercups are Blowing," "The Lamb," "Best of All," "A Mother's Heart," "Three More Songs of the Fair," "After," "I Passed by Your Window," "Timber-Logs," "Saint George of England," "Little Connemara Rose."

MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.

Managing Director—Mr. FRANK ALLEN.
Telephone: 1050 & 1051 Gerrard. Telegrams: "Twigsome, Westrand, London."
Head Offices: CRANBOURN MANSIONS, CRANBOURN STREET, W.C.

These calls are communicated by the management for the convenience of Artistes without prejudice.

CALLS FOR MONDAY, MARCH 25, 1918.

No Deputies will be accepted at Rehearsals. Any Artistes absenting themselves will be liable to have their contracts cancelled.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—
"Box o' Tricks."

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Sam Mayo, Bromley Carter, Jim C. Max, Fyne and Hurley, Caron Troupe.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Golda Quartette, Ford and Truly, Sammy Shields, Belle Davis and Her Cracker Jacks, Walton and Lester, Tom D. Newell.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.
BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.
Picture entertainments.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.
Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—
Piccadillians, Margaret Kay, Adam Tomlinson, Holden and Graham, Harry Shirley and May Ransome.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Johnson Clark, The Romany Girl, Madam Walker's Juveniles, and company as booked.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.
Picture entertainments.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.
Picture entertainments.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
W. F. Frame, Symphonia, The Doves, Biff Girls, Purcella Bros., etc.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Winifred Ward, The Four Royal Scots, Irene Shamrock, Brinn.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Maisie Danvers, Royal Merry Four, Alfonso, and company as booked.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Happy Tom Parker, Arthur Woodville, Betty Washington, and company as booked.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Ardren and May, Effie White, Lulas L. Estrange.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Barton and Ashley, Donald and Carson, Rosie and Mons. Dubin, Claude Golden, and company as booked.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
J. H. Wakefield, Vera Wootton, and company as booked.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.
ALHAMBRA, BRADFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.15 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Waters and Morris, Roxy La Rocca, Ernest Hastings, Rollo and Rega, Daisy Jerome, The Jovers.

NEW EMPIRE CINEMA, NEWCASTLE.
Picture entertainments.

KING'S THEATRE, SOUTHSEA.
Rehearsal at 1.30 p.m. for:—
Roya, George Murphy, Barts Trio, Ford and Urma, W. V. Robinson, Lewis and Maude, Ermay and Rey.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Company as booked.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE, GATESHEAD.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Nixon Grey, Pierce and Roslyn, Madge Velma, Haley's Komets, The 3 A. Ya. Mee's, Monroe and Robbins Trio.
(Managing Director, Richard Thornton.)

EMPIRE HALL, WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

HER MAJESTY'S T., WALSALL.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—
Company as booked.

Artistes' Business must be absolutely free from vulgarity.

Special provision has been made at each Theatre for the exhibition of loose Photographs. Artistes are invited to supply these to the Manager on reaching the Theatre, and they will be returned in good condition at the end of the week.

Scenery and Properties must be fireproofed to approval of Local Authorities.

Applications for Engagements by Artistes or their Agents must be addressed to Head Office. State salaries required for (a) West End, (b) Suburban, (c) Large, and (d) Small Provincial Halls. A list of existing engagements must be enclosed. Artistes are requested to accredit only one Agent at the same time and to notify the Company immediately of any change of Agents.

Silence a polite negative.

Artistes desirous of submitting their Acts at private auditions should communicate with Head Office.

Matinées are held every Wednesday at the **Empire Theatre, South Shields,** at which new acts may be presented. Applications should be made to the Manager at the Theatre.

Engagements of Artistes are subject to cancellation if the following requirements are not observed:—

(1) Matter for bills and programmes, blocks, specimens of pictorials (if any) and a list of engagements with (a) in the case of singers, copies of the songs and patter, (b) in the case of sketch proprietors copies of the scripts as licensed and copies of the Lord Chamberlain's Licence, must be sent to Head Office three weeks at least before opening.
(2) Artistes must attend rehearsals, no deputies being accepted.
(3) **Press Matter and Photos.** Star Artistes, Feature, and Speciality Acts are requested to furnish the Press Publicity Department (Representative, Mr. Alfred Davies) with any interesting matter pertaining to their turn, with latest photos (non-copyright), for newspaper reproduction, three weeks before opening.

Important Notice to Artistes and Agents. When an Artiste or Act having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the contracts will be sent to the Agent who negotiated the last engagement, unless notice has been received from the Artiste that this is not desired.

Contracts and Orders. No contracts or orders for services or goods will be recognised unless upon an Official Form issued from Head Office and signed by the **Managing Director** or **Business Manager,** and the Company concerned may refuse payment for all services rendered or goods supplied except in accordance with this notice.

Invoices must be sent to the Theatre or Department to which goods are supplied, but monthly statements must be sent to Head Office.

The Company on whose behalf Contracts or Orders are signed is solely responsible for payment.

The Company will not hold itself responsible for loss or damage to Manuscripts, Songs, etc., submitted or sent to it for any purpose.

Mr. FRANK ALLEN, *Managing Director.*
Mr. A. P. DE COURVILLE, *Assistant to Managing Director and Booking Manager for the London Hippodrome.* } Can be seen by appointment Only.

KENNA BROS.

THE FUNNY AIRMEN.
DON'T MUCK ABOUT!!
NEATH.
Vacant, MARCH 25.
Perm. Add.—8, Dover Mansions, Brixton, S.W. 9.

SYD MAY

ON TOUR (13th week).
Concludes March 30 by mutual agreement a 14 weeks' engagement with the late Mark Sheridan's "Gay Paree" Company; will take a month's rest, after which, owing to a few postponed dates, shall be pleased to accept offers for a few immediate vacancies (London preferred). All business communications to:—
P.A., 130, AMESBURY AVENUE, STREATHAM HILL, LONDON, S.W.

LOUIE TRACY,

"The Dapper Dandy Boy."
Starring in "STRAWBERRIES AND CREAM."
March 18, PORTSMOUTH. March 25, BRIGHTON.

TOM SHERBOURNE

THE NOVEL VENTRILOQUIST.
Presenting an Original Act, "FUN ON THE LINKS."
This Week, HIPPO, COVENTRY.

An Acquisition to any Programme.

MISS LILLIE LANGTRY.
The Versatile Comedienne.
This, King's, Dundee. Next, Partic Pal., Glasgow.

MISS DAISY JAMES.
Everybody's Favourite.
This week, Chiswick.
Coms., 65, Sudbourne-rd., Brixton Hill, S.W. 'Phone: 2115 Brixton.

Latest.
"Punch and Judy."
Written by Geo. R. Sims.
Music by John S. Baker.

JOE ELVIN
Coms., GEORGE BARCLAY.

MR. BRANSBY WILLIAMS.
This, PLYMOUTH. Next, MANCHESTER
Business Manager, Ernest Edelsten.

T. E. DUNVILLE.
London always.
Gulliver's Travels, 4 trips nightly.
Letters, c/o "The Era."
Sole Agent, Mr. Walter Bentley.
Two New Songs, "The Lighthouse Keeper" and "W-O-M-A-N."

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR.
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"Answers" Prize Medallist.
This week, Grand, Hereford.

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Splendid attraction. Lady Speciality act. Req. few inner dates.
P.A., ATHELDA, 48, Clifford-st., C.-on-M., Manchester.

ATLAS-VULCANA TROUPE require March 25 and April 1, between London and North. Gosford Lodge, Fulham, S.W. 6.

SIX GREENLEES
Always a Hit. "On a Holiday."
March 18, Pav., Wishaw.

THE TWO CURES,
Atoms of Amazing Ability.
This week, South London.
Next week, Syndicate Tour.

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Five Cultured Versatile Artistes.
Hit of bill last week—
PALACE, READING (Refer).
This: Grand Theatre, Evesham [holiday.
Next: Palladium, Fenton, Staffs.
April 1: Queen's, South Shields.
VACANT: April 8, 15, North.

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ARTISTES' DEPARTMENT: Negotiations—A. D. DAVIS; Dates—LLEWELLYN JOHNS.
Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR MARCH 25, 1918.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
G. H. Chirgwin, Will Evans in "Laying a Carpet," Florence Smithson, Boganny's Comedians, Rinaldo, Herbert Waring and Co. in "The Trap," Leslie Elliott The Merrills, Evelyn and Clayton, Bioscope.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE, KINGSWAY. (London Opera House.)
Pictures and Varieties.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
"Look Pleasant."

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Those 4 Kids, Nellie Wallace, "The Meanest Man on Earth," Ernesto, Grogie, Alfredo, Bioscope.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMP.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Sisters Urma, Geo. Bass, May Hopkins, Rinaldo, Sam Barton, Ruby Roya, Frank Leo, Bioscope.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Gaby Rovette, Belle Mora, The Gothams, The Mozelles, The Kavanaghs, Dalmere's Table Circus, Bioscope.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Lola Patey, Bells, 3 Prodigies, Vernon Watson, Ivor Vinter, Neil Gow, Bioscope.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Fred Land, Campbell and Brady, Romani, Costa and Geo, Roy Mex, Bioscope.

And in association with the above—

THE ALHAMBRA, LONDON, W.C.
"The Bing Boys on Broadway."

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Olga Sydney, Ketos,, Alfred Leonard Trio, Jack Birchley, De Cars and "Tomato," Bioscope.

BEDMINSTER HIPPO.
Pictures and Varieties.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.
Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—
Tom E. Hood, Zellini, O'Hara Sisters, La Pia, Edna Maude, Bioscope.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.
Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—
Mabel Mann, Loupe and Ladies, May Erne and "He," Bioscope.

MANCHESTER HIPPO.
Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—
Fields and Doreen, Jen Latona, Those Nondescripts, Bioscope.
(Matinees Monday and Tuesday.)

PICTUREHOUSE, CHATHAM
FLORAL HALL, LEICESTER.

NOTE.—Artistes engaged at any of the above theatres should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at the end of the week.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—
FULHAM HIPPODROME.

The distance as the crow flies between the Finsbury Park Empire and the Wood Green Empire, measured on the Ordnance Survey Map, is 2 miles 60 yards.—Edward Stanford.

BAND PARTS REQUIRED.—14 different parts for English Orchestrations and 17 for Foreign Orchestrations. London Coliseum, London Opera House, and Manchester Hippodrome require 20 parts, including 3 first violins, extra 'cello and bass, and extra part for harp if not scored for.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the orders, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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25, Charing Cross Road, W.C.
Telephone Nos., Gerrard 5654 and 2619.

Calls for Monday, March 25, 1918

LONDON PAVILION.
Rehearsal at 11.30.
Ernest C. Rolls' Production
"Any Old Thing."

OXFORD.
Rehearsal at 12.
C. B. Cochran's Production
"The Better 'Ole."

METROPOLITAN.
Rehearsal at 12.15.
Terence Byron and Co. in "Simple Simon." Sutcliffe Family. Two Cures. Manny & Roberts. Maggie Clifton & Partner. The Edivictas. Elsie Roby. Win and Windle. Halma. Bioscope.

CHELSEA.
Rehearsal at 12.
The Dorinos. The Gomez Trio. Kiddy Kennedy. Maximillian the Great. Milton Bros. The Four Its. Ada Durham. Morton and Bowman. The Mountfords. Bioscope.

EUSTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Bert Lloyd and Co. in "The Get-Away." Hamamura Family. Mazdah. Joe and Betty Binns. McKinley. Mdlle. Alcida Capitaine. Parky Knight. Daisy Morell. Bioscope. Joan Tate.

WATFORD PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Ethel Newman and Co., in "Jane."

SOUTH LONDON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Charles Windermere and Co. in "Sarah Sleeps Out." Gotham Comedy Girls. McAllister and Smith. Atherton and Hyde. Walsh and Milne. Armstrong and Howarth. M'Lita Dolores. Daly and Marr. Bioscope.

EAST HAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Jack Pleasants. Takeo and Koma Namba. Niblo and Doris. Naughton and Gold. Emilie Lay and Pianist. Eric Brooks. Ernie Whitmee. Franco. Lily Eyton. Bioscope.

TOTTENHAM.
Rehearsal at 12.
Mdlle. Irma Lorraine. Foreman and Fannan The Real McKays. The Three Morrellys. Dolly Elsworthy. Harry Bedford. The Dainty Danes. Sergt. Brennan. Bioscope

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.
Rehearsal at 12.
Jack Pleasant. The Mongadors. Twelve Manchester Mites. Kelson Trueman's C. in "A Gold Stripe." 8 Rosettes. Athas & Collins. The 3 Renos. Lucy Brennan. Arthur Stroud. Bioscope.

WALTHAMSTOW PALACE.
Rehearsal at 1.
Moss' Empires, Ltd., present "Zig-Zag."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes without prejudice.

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